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THE NEWSPAPER FOR SITTINGBOURNE, ISLE OF SHEPPEY, FAVERSHAM & DISTRICT



Issue No 111
Available from Wednesday,
October 28, 2009

Your guide

to choosing the right NHS service if you become ill or are injured this winter.

If you become unwell or are injured this winter, a range of NHS services exist to help you get well.

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www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

NHS

Eastern and Coastal Kent



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Chest pain.
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Blood loss.**

A&E or 999

Accident and Emergency departments help people who show signs of serious illness or injury. If you telephone 999 and tell the operator you need an emergency, a response vehicle will be sent to you.



**Cuts.
Strains.
Itches.
Sprains.**

NHS minor injuries units and walk-in centres

NHS minor injuries units and walk-in centres are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in most parts of England and coastal Kent. They can treat minor illnesses and injuries. Most are open from early in the morning to late at night. You do not need an appointment, and you can usually get treatment within 15 minutes.



**Vomiting.
Ear pain.
Stomach ache.
Back ache.**

GP Surgery

GP surgeries can be found locally across the country. You can phone or make an appointment for advice, examinations, and prescriptions. In an emergency, a GP may also visit your home – if you need this service telephone 999 for instructions.



**Diarrhoea.
Runny nose.
Painful cough.
Headache.**

Pharmacist

Pharmacies can be found in local areas. Your local pharmacist can give you advice on medicines you need to treat them.



**Unwell?
Unsure?
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Need help?**

NHS Direct

NHS Direct offers confidential health advice over the phone, Internet and through digital TV, 24 hours a day. Contact **NHS Direct** on 0845 4647 or 111, on the FREEVIEW channel 108, or page two of the local TV listings.



**Hangover.
Grazed knee.
Sore throat.
Cough.**

Self-care

A lot of winter illnesses can be treated at home with plenty of rest.

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THE NEWSPAPER FOR SITTINGBOURNE, ISLE OF SHEPPEY, FAVERSHAM & DISTRICT



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FOR GREAT FOOD SEE OUR EATING OUT GUIDE INSIDE

ICONIC DISPLAY IS DIVINE TO BEHOLD

WHAT'S ON & WATCH

yourkenttv.co.uk



Tory parliamentary hopeful Gordon Henderson at the exhibition of Saxon finds. Search: 'Saxon'

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Picture SERGEI TARACYAN



A central icon of the display is this work by Sergei Taracyan, a Russian artist who lives in a remote hermitage five hours' drive from Moscow.

■ BY NICK AMES

AN ancient church has been transformed into a Byzantine jewel box of dazzling religious icons from around the world – the first time such a collection has ever been displayed in an Anglican place of worship.

This unique installation, part of the Canterbury Festival, will give St Peter's Church, near Faversham, the temporary impression of having what is called an iconostasis.

An icon screen has been constructed at the church in Oare to exhibit dozens of superb paintings, by leading artists from all over the world.

This is a central feature of all Orthodox churches, separating the sanctuary from the nave and representing the place where Heaven and Earth meet.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, said: "Icons are neither simple pictures nor little isolated spots of divinity scattered around. They are a way of experiencing the force of the Divine."

He has a special interest in them, has written eloquently on the subject, and has his own extensive collection of icons in Lambeth Palace.

Icons belong to a living tradition, he said.

The Archbishop added: "Not only are icons still being painted, featuring the classic scenes from Christ's life: as new saints are created, new scenarios become possible."

The exhibition at Oare, entitled Divine Dimensions, bought together many international iconographers, who will contribute works of their choice. Its creator is local artist Ann Welch, who is a student of iconography.

She said: "Art often reflects the spirit of the age in which it was created. This exhibition will reflect a spirit both of international co-operation and of ecumenical purpose. I hope it might also reflect the passing of an era of divisiveness and greed."

Parish priest the Rev Carolin Clapperton said: "We hope that

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



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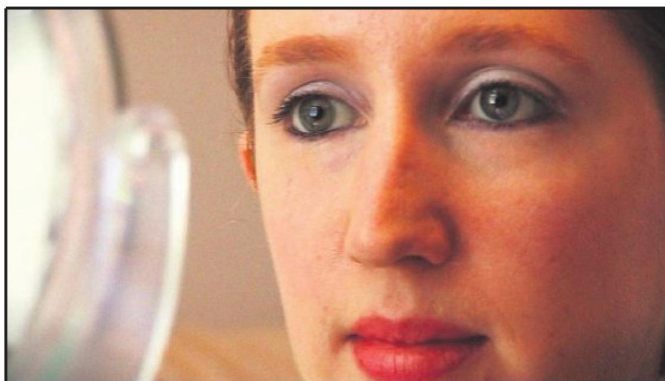
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WEB BROADCAST: Helen Renny is star of new teen drama which will be put out on the internet

Hollywould calling actress Helen for internet teen soap

■ BY NICK AMES

FAVERSHAM actress Helen Renny is starring in a groundbreaking new interactive drama series penned by top soap writer Julie Wassmer, whose credits include EastEnders.

Broadcast on the internet, Hollywould aims to tackle youth issues such as sexual health, spiking drinks and personal safety.

The £20,000 interactive 10-part five-minute teenage soap opera stars Helen as fresh-faced university student Holly, who is exposed to a series of issues which confront young people including internet dating.

It has been created by Kent County Council's broadband channel, Kent TV, which views it as a fresh way of communicating with young adults.

It has been made in consultation with NHS Primary Care Trusts and the series homepage links to a collection of films relevant to the topics raised throughout the series.

Some of the information films include Chlamydia, general sexual health, how to find university accommodation and staying safe.

Hollywould contains contemporary messages within the drama and allows viewers to direct the storyline after the initial four episodes.

A new episode is being released at midday every Wednesday, including today, for the next nine weeks.

The TaxPayers' Alliance has criticised the move and said people would prefer to pay lower council tax than spend money on experimental drama.

Matthew Elliot, chief executive of the campaign group, said: "I'm sure most taxpayers would rather their money was in their pocket in the form of lower council tax, especially in the middle of a recession."

Hollywould was created in just four months and used 25 actors, runners and extras as well as a director, writer and film editor. It was directed by award-winning director Simon Welsford.

Writer Julie Wassmer whose other credits include ITV drama London's Burning added: "Writing for the internet is very different but extremely creative."

"The format allows people to interact with the characters and plot in a much more intimate way and will also allow us to put across some light-touch messaging about serious subjects like student safety and the sexual health of young women."

Kent TV was launched by Kent County Council in 2007 and is a blend of website and television, designed to put over public information and features about the county. It is operated independently by Bob Geldof's media company Ten Alps plc.

'People of all faiths and none will come'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

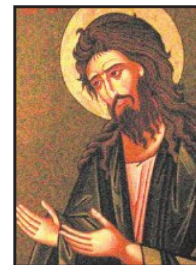
through art and music, people of all faiths and none will come to St Peter's and find here a place of peace, a place for prayer and quiet reflection and that the exhibition will lead people into a sense of the divine."

The installation is open to the public from 11am-5pm today until Sunday, November 1.

Icons are particularly associated with Eastern Orthodox Christianity and offer what some might find an unfamiliar depiction of sacred subjects.

A wide range of styles is included in the installation, which, unlike any ordinary exhibition, will be a part of the work of the church.

It is thought this is the first time that an Orthodox iconostasis has been installed in an Anglican church.



DIVINE: Religious icon at St Peter's exhibition



FOUND: Tinkerbell is reunited with her owner

A fairytale ending for lost Tinkerbell

WITH pantomime season just around the corner, happy endings are always welcome – especially one for Tinkerbell the dog, an 18-month-old Shih Tzu cross.

Tinkerbell was found straying around the Gates Service Station, on the A2 near Dunkirk, by a member of the public.

Swale council officers came to collect Tinkerbell and after checking her microchip details found that she was registered to an address in Surrey.

After contacting the owners, it was discovered that she had gone missing from her home in Coulsdon about ten days before.

Officers took Tinkerbell to Jasmil Kennels and Tinkerbell's owners arranged to collect her from there.

How she managed to get from Surrey to Kent will remain a mystery, however.



For information and advice on travelling in Kent and for all our traffic regulation orders, please see the Kent on Saturday or the Kent on Sunday or visit our website at **www.kent.gov.uk/highways**

Campaigner calls for free rail travel for pensioners

A CAMPAIGNER who has compiled a 5,000-signature petition calling for free travel on Kent's rail network for the over 60s has taken his campaign to County Hall.

Retired decorator Harry Farrow, from Sittingbourne, has also written to Prime Minister Gordon Brown and Prince Charles, asking for their help in giving senior citizens free use of the railways after peak hours.

He wants the scheme to be adopted by Southeastern Rail and run alongside the current free bus passes which are available across the county.

Mr Farrow, 63, said a similar scheme is in operation in both London and the Midlands, and he sees no reason why it could not operate in Kent as well.

Petition

He waited outside the Maidstone headquarters of Kent County Council and handed his leaflet to councillors and council officers.

Mr Farrow said: "I had a very good reception. People seemed to like what I had to say."

He was accompanied by Sittingbourne KCC member Mike Whiting, and also met head of transport David Hall. Both expressed their support.

"The free bus passes are all very well," he said, "but to go further afield takes a lot of time, and sitting on a bus

■ BY NICK AMES

for more than 40 minutes to get to Faversham or Gillingham is not an option most older people will want to take consider.

"So I thought, as it is the case that using the London pass you can get from Dartford to Watford or into the Buckinghamshire countryside for nothing, why could something similar not operate in Kent?"

"Many trains are empty after rush hour, so this would not affect anyone adversely. I was pleased so many councillors agreed with me, and I intend to keep going."

Mr Farrow has sent his petition to supporters in Medway and written to district and parish councils across the county, including Walmer and Sandwich.

He said: "When I started out, people said I should work from the bottom up, but I wanted to do it my way, so I wrote to Prince Charles, who sent a letter back wishing me well."

"I feel so strongly about this that I will deliver the petition to the Prime Minister in the near future."

"Other people have advanced their causes in that way, so why not me?"

A spokesman for the rail company said it was constantly looking at ways to maximise use of public transport and all options were taken into consideration.

• Email yoursware@kosmedia.co.uk



SUPPORT: Campaigner Harry Farrow with KCC councillor Mike Whiting

'Abandoned' cars stolen for scrap

ROGUE recovery trucks which pluck parked cars off the road and sell them for scrap are operating in Swale, police warn.

There have been two cases in the last two weeks where arrests and charges have been brought after vehicles were lifted from the side of the road using recovery trucks.

Notes had been placed on cars which were presumed abandoned, but before owners had a chance to respond, recovery truck drivers removed the vehicles so they could be sold for their scrap value.

Detective Inspector Kris Hill of Mid Kent's Tactical Crime Investigation Department said: "Rogue recovery truck drivers may have thought they could get away with these crimes on the pretext that they believed the vehicles to be abandoned. We are taking a hard line on this type of crime and pursuing every case for what it is - car theft."

Irate moped rider attacks motorist

POLICE are appealing for witnesses after a motorist was assaulted by a moped rider in Sittingbourne.

The 32-year-old Sittingbourne man was driving a Renault Megane along Addington Road when he stopped at the junction with Park Road just after 3.15pm on October 12.

He was attacked by the moped rider, who accused him of nearly hitting him, and allegedly slammed the car door onto the his legs and chest. The moped driver was 6ft 2in tall with short mousey-coloured hair, and was riding a silver moped with a silver box on the back.

Anyone with information is asked to phone Sittingbourne Police Station on 01795 419161 or Crimestoppers in confidence on 0800 555111.

Three sheep dead after dog attack

A FLOCK of prize-winning sheep has been devastated by a dog attack at a farm in Eastling, near Faversham.

The dogs, a Rottweiler and a Dogue De Bordeaux, were discovered in the field of 10 sheep when owner John Shrubsole went to tend them early on Sunday morning.

One of the sheep had been killed and two more sustained such extensive injuries that they had to be destroyed by a vet.

The other seven animals also sustained wounds, including lacerations to their ears. The sheep were all rare breed animals and have been shown at agricultural shows across the country.

Mr Shrubsole said: "I am devastated by what has happened. We have spent years perfecting these bloodlines and that has been destroyed in the space of 10 minutes. I doubt I will be able to breed from these sheep now."

Both of the dogs were shot during the incident.

Inspector Steve Griffiths said: "The law allows a farmer to act to protect his livestock. We are still investigating this incident and have yet to speak to the owner of the dogs."

Hard-hitting show is a musical swansong for theatre company

AN Aids charity is set to benefit from a musical being staged in Sittingbourne.

The hard-hitting smash hit Rent, based on the book by Jonathan Larson, is the most ambitious project ever undertaken by Swale's Second to None Productions - and it will also be their last.

Since its formation in 1991, the company has performed a range of plays and musicals, and for the past six years has worked with the Sittingbourne Community College, whose superb facilities are ideal for rehearsals.

However, artistic director Mel Wellsman and her husband Brian, the associate director, have decided they need to devote more time to their family, so the production of the musical Rent will be their last.

The story is set in New York in the 1980s, when HIV and Aids were forced into the public consciousness.

Mel Wellsman said that during the research for this show, which was carried out by the production team



AMBITIOUS: The cast rehearses for Rent

and the cast, it became painfully obvious that many young people were still unaware of the dangers of HIV and Aids.

The musical is at the Millennium Hall, at Fulston Manor School, Sittingbourne, until October 31, with performances at 7.30pm.

Tickets for Rent are priced from £10 to £12.50. They are available from Helen Davies on 07779 608986 or e-mail hw.davies@hotmail.co.uk. A concessionary rate of £8 is offered for the first night performance.

A percentage of the proceeds will be given to Crusaid.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Clamping down on hare coursers and poachers

A POLICE operation to clamp down on illegal hare coursing and poaching has been launched in the area around Sittingbourne.

The operation, which is being run by the Sittingbourne Neighbourhood Team, runs until January 31 and aims to reduce rural crime and raise the confidence of people living in the countryside in the ability of the police to uphold law and order.

A similar operation was launched recently in the area around Faversham.

Police will be working alongside people who are familiar with the landscape in a bid to build up information about offenders.

Sergeant Darren Walshaw from the Neighbourhood Team said: "The people involved in this so-called sport can cause thousands of pounds worth of damage to newly-planted crops. Hares are often left with broken legs or backs and last year three dogs were abandoned in fields."

The operation will also target poachers who, by stealing pheasants and other game birds from organised shoots, also prove costly to landowners.

Anyone with information about rural crime should contact the Sittingbourne Neighbourhood Team on 01795 419120.

Police listen to residents' concerns at surgery

SPEEDING cars and parking problems were two of the concerns highlighted by Queenborough residents at the Island Neighbourhood Team's first street surgery.

Other residents also raised the issue of criminal damage being committed at properties outside town centres.

The surgery was held outside Borough Hall, Main Road, Queenborough, last week.

Joining members of the Island Neighbourhood Team were local Police Community Support Officers, the newly-formed Neighbourhood Task Team and crime reduction officer Adrian Fromm.

One of the residents who spoke to police at the briefing was Catherine Lewis, of Queenborough Road.

She said: "I live on a farm and trespassing and criminal damage is a problem, so I raised that. An event like this is useful because it gives the police an idea how people feel, and I'm pleased that they are going to act on the situations I have raised."

On the day, Bluetooth technology was used to broadcast messages publicising the event to mobile phone users in the vicinity of Borough Hall.

Planned homes 'will be slums of future'

BY JILL HURST

A PLANNED development of 320 new homes in Iwade has brought angry reactions from residents, who say the village is already overpopulated.

Former parish councillor, Philip Fearn, hit out at the scheme after property developers, Hillreed Homes, received outline planning permission from Swale council.

His said: "The whole development of Iwade has gone too far. We do not have the infrastructure to cope with more houses.

"Shops, doctors, schools and local services are becoming overloaded.

"There is not adequate parking as it is and because of government legislation, developers are now building at a higher density with smaller roads, to discourage cars.

Problems

"However, the cars won't go away and it has got to the point where emergency vehicles are unable to get through the streets."

Mr Fearn, of Meadow Rise, added: "There is also a major problem with flooding. Swale council agreed in principle, some time ago, that no more development would take place until the river culverts were sorted out.

"They have reneged on their promise. I really think Iwade is being ruined. We are struggling to cope as it is, but this council takes no notice. I truly believe these houses will end up the slums of the future".

Angry Iwade residents have echoed Mr Fearn's opinions, writing to the council to complain that their views are being ignored and the village is struggling to cope.

One complained that Iwade could no longer be classed as a village, whilst another asked the council to sort out existing problems before creating more.

However, Maidstone-based Hillreed Homes has defended its plan to develop the land adjacent to Coleshall Farm, School Lane.

Marketing and corporate manager Jo Richards said: "The village itself has grown considerably in recent years, but the expansion has been carefully managed and the street layouts, road calming and open spaces all make it a most agreeable place to live.

Company chairman, Tony Hiller, said: "This scheme will, at long last, deliver Iwade a new recreation ground, pavilion and parking area, together with a substantial public open space next to the medical centre."

A Swale council spokesman said: "Contrary to Mr Wilkes' suggestion, the development will be of a high quality and sympathetic to the appearance and scale of the existing development in the village.

"With regard to surface water drainage, the Iwade Stream comes under the jurisdiction of the Environment Agency, who raise no objection to the proposed development."

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ROAD TOO FAR: Iwade residents say the village would not be able to accommodate another 320 new homes

Airport scanner used to examine artifacts



SCANNING FOR CLUES: The Rapsican device in use

AN airport-style security scanner is the latest tool for archaeologists examining the Anglo-Saxon relics discovered in Sittingbourne.

The Rapsican device is being used to check for metallic components in the articles discovered at The Meads, where the ground was being dug up to lay foundations for a new pub.

A team is at work in full public view in The Forum shopping centre in the town, where the scanner is proving valuable in tracing components forming parts of jewellery.

The finds also include weapons and beads, but most precious is a perfectly-preserved

pair of glass drinking cups from a Saxon warrior's grave, placed either side of his head, along with the warrior's sword, shield and spear.

The rare cups are being kept safe and are not on display, although many objects are on show at a converted shop in the town centre.

The full haul includes more than 2,500 objects, including weapons, brooches and other dress accessories, decorative coloured glass beads and vessels.

They were recovered from 229 graves and are being examined by archaeologists and local volunteers.



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AIR-BRAINED IDEA: Boris Johnson claims he has "no aspiration" to build an airport in the Thames Estuary

Defiant Wyatt: 'I'll fight Boris's ludicrous plan'

MP DEREK Wyatt has hit back at Boris Johnson's claims that he has "no aspiration" to build an airport in the Thames estuary.

The MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey made the comments in reference to Mr Johnson's plan to build a £40 billion floating 24-hour airport off the Kent coast.

The Mayor of London recently told a meeting of London's Transport Committee: "I do not have an aspiration to construct such an airport. What I think is right for us at the GLA is to look in a progressive way at all the possibilities for aviation capacity around London. And that is all we are doing."

But Mr Wyatt said the mayor had created a steering group to look into the proposal after a preliminary report last week. The Oakervee Report, which cost £10,000, calls on the mayor to fund the £10 million panel.

Consulting

Mr Wyatt said: "The mayor's actions are completely incongruent to his words today."

"He has not commissioned expensive reports into any other options to cope with demand for air travel, so it is clear that he strongly favours the estuary plan."

"He has also packed his £10m steering group with people who agree with him, like his deputy Kit Malthouse and Bridget Rosewell, who recently set up a consulting company

■ BY NICK AMES
& SIMON ROBINSON

with the author of yesterday's shoddy report.

"At best the mayor, the most powerful Tory in the country, seems to be confused on this; at worst his comment amounts to duplicity."

"To be charitable, he seems to be confused as to where his remit and authority ends, and on whose property he is seeking to build on."

"I will continue to fight this ludicrous scheme for as long as I represent the people whose lives will be made much poorer if it comes to fruition."

The airport idea has also been slammed by Medway Council, Kent County Council and the RSPB, who all oppose the plans.

RSPB regional director Chris Corrigan said: "The airport would damage or destroy huge areas of legally-protected habitat."

"There could be also be significant risk of bird strike, as the Thames Estuary is a hub for hundreds of thousands of migrant birds."

KCC leader Paul Carter said: "There is a growing consensus that the Estuary airport is undeliverable, unaffordable and unnecessary."

"Manston could also handle six million passenger movements a year, which would boost the economy in an area of high deprivation."

An online petition, Stop Estuary Airport, was launched last week. For more information visit www.stopestuaryairport.co.uk

Remote church hosts religious icon display

A COLOURFUL display of religious icons is on show at remote Oare Church, on the marshes to the west of Faversham.

The installation of Byzantine and Neo-Coptic style icons, by leading international contemporary iconographers, is displayed as an iconostasis over the altar of the church.

They have been attracting visitors from across the UK and the event is the first of its kind to be staged in an Anglican church anywhere in Britain. It has been organised as part of the Canterbury Festival.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Teenager arrested after vicious attack in alleyway

POLICE have arrested an 18-year-old man following a serious assault which took place in an alleyway between Capel Road and Roonagh Court, in Sittingbourne.

One of the victims, a 44-year-old man, suffered a fractured skull in the assault and, after being treated at Medway Maritime Hospital, is now recovering at home.

The assault is thought to have occurred between 1.30- 2.30am on October 10.

The man was arrested on Thursday, October 15, on suspicion of actual bodily harm and grievous bodily harm and has been bailed pending further enquiries until November 10.

Anyone who may have any with information is asked to contact Kent Police at Sittingbourne on 01795 419161 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Breakaway councillor defects to join the Tories

A COUNCILLOR from the breakaway Sheppey First! group has defected to the Conservative Party.

The decision by Cllr Lesley Ingham, who represents Sheppey Central as an independent, has been welcomed by local Conservative parliamentary candidate, Gordon Henderson.

Mr Henderson said: "I have known Lesley for many years and I have always respected her for the way in which she put the interests of her local community before party politics."

"There was never any doubt in my mind that she was a Conservative at heart, but I know she felt that becoming a Sheppey First! councillor was the best way for her to promote the interests of the Island."

"I am delighted that Lesley now realises that the Conservative councillors on Sheppey also put the interests of the island first, and that she can do more for the people of Sheppey by joining their team."

"I very much hope that the other two Sheppey First! councillors will take a similar decision, and increase the influence of the island's Conservatives over the decision making process at Swale House."

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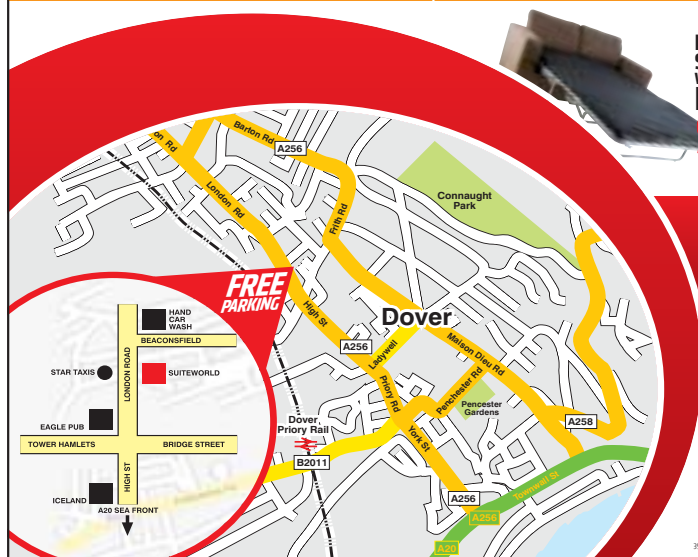


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The modern relevance of poppy appeals



■ BY CHRIS MURPHY

WITH the continued deaths of British servicemen in Afghanistan, this year's poppy appeal for fallen fighters is ever more poignant.

The appeal was launched on Thursday by the Royal British Legion with the slogan "For their sake, wear a poppy".

Since 2001, more than 220 members of the Armed Forces – including soldiers from Kent – have been killed in Afghanistan, and more than 300 troops have been wounded in Helmand Province alone.

In decades past, we bought poppies to remember those who fell in two world wars and other conflicts.

Tragedies

But the tragedies suffered by the families of those men and women is now being shared in these new modern day battles.

Along with the dead, thousands more have been hurt in Iraq, many with brutal injuries.

During the launch ceremony, hosted by the chairman of Kent County Council, John Davies, representatives from active serving units across the county, many of whom have served in Afghanistan and Iraq, were formally presented the first poppies of the 2009 Appeal.

This was done by school children from St Paul's and Benenden Primary Schools who handed each veteran a poppy.

Those that have fallen in Kent in recent years include Flight Sgt Gary Andrews, 48, from Tankerton, who was with 120 Squadron RAF; Sgt Dave Wilkinson, 33, from Ashford, with 19 Regiment Royal Artillery; Major Alexis Roberts, 32, with 1st Battalion The Royal Gurkha Rifles; Lance Corporal Jake Alderton, 22, from Bexley, with 36 Engineer Regiment; Lance Corporal James Johnson, 31, from Chatham, with 5th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland, and Captain Ben Babington-Browne, 27, from Maidstone, who



REMEMBER: Poppy appeal has been launched by the Royal British Legion with slogan "For their sake, wear a poppy"

was with 22 Engineer Regiment, Royal Engineers.

Royal British Legion county manager, Geoff Simpson, said: "The two weeks of Remembrancetide provide a time when we can honour the memory of those who have died."

"However, in remembering the dead, we must not forget the living, particularly those who have had their lives shattered by dreadful wounding, or the loss of a loved one."

"The funds raised through our annual poppy appeal help provide emotional and financial support for servicemen and their families, who are trying to rebuild their lives."

"The people of Kent generously donated just over £1 million during last year's poppy appeal."

"However, we see daily increases in the number of people turning to us for help."

"The support we have given this year has been extensive – from funding a laptop that

allowed a young ex-soldier suffering from post traumatic stress disorder to order his shopping online and keep in contact with his family, to helping an estranged wife and her three children move out of a women's refuge and into a rented home of their own. For their sake, wear a poppy."

Because of the ever-growing number of casualties, the Legion said the focus of this year's appeal is to help what it called "the Afghan generation" of the Armed Forces and their families.

Since 2003, the Legion has financially assisted 10,000 Middle East veterans, and helped win £7.5m additional compensation paid to the most seriously injured heroes.

It has also provided £1.8m for combat stress to provide treatment for mental traumas, provided housing and employment, and even adventure breaks and family holidays to hundreds of veterans, all of whom saw action in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Fatal crash outside of village church

A WOMAN has died following a car crash outside a village church.

The accident, which involved a silver Peugeot and a Mondeo, happened at about 9.30am on Thursday on the A26 Tonbridge Road at Watlington, near Maidstone.

It is thought the 48-year-old, from Gravesend, was trapped inside her vehicle following the crash, which was attended by staff from all three emergency services.

Pedigree puppies stolen during raid

THIEVES made off with nine cocker spaniels after breaking into kennels on a village industrial estate.

Four black-and-white puppies and five adults were stolen during the raid in Iwade, near Sittingbourne, which took place between October 14-15.

The estimated value of the dogs – none of which were micro-chipped – is about £4,000.

Lifeboat rescued skilled Dutch sailor

A DUTCH sailor rescued after his boat suffered engine failure said he was sad to have called for help after 40 years' experience of sailing.

The owner said he was pleased to see the Dover lifeboat come to the aid of his small angling boat, which had been drifting in the north-east shipping lane on passage to The Netherlands.

Deputy Second Coxswain Mark Finnis led the RNLI lifeboat out of Dover just after 1pm on Monday, October 19, to the disabled vessel, which was 11 miles out of port.

The stricken seven-metre water-jet angling boat, together with its single occupant, was then towed to Dover Marina.

Mr Finnis said: "Conditions in the Channel were moderate and the boat was drifting in the nautical equivalent of the M25."

"Everything went well and the gentleman was last seen boarding a ferry to go home, leaving his new boat in Dover."

Large driving fine

A POLISH motorist has been handed Kent's largest ever fine of £7,500 for twice being caught driving a dangerously overweight lorry on the M20.

Janaszcz appeared before Sevenoaks magistrates this morning, when he was also ordered to pay £85 court costs and a £15 victim surcharge on top of the mammoth fine.

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QUESTION & ANSWER

TIM YOUNG



Q How did you become interested in making stained glass?

A I left school when I was 16 and worked as a landscape gardener for three months and hated it. There was a studio along the Littlebourne Road which was called The Stained Glass Studio and was run by Mike Boothroyd. I worked there for four years making leaded lights and all-round things. When I left there, I worked for Canterbury Cathedral for 12 years as a Stained glass glazier. My work entailed removing the panels out of the Cathedral and into the conservation studio, where the conservators did their work. After the stained glass had been conserved, I then re-fitted it into position. I had to get the panels out of the building and into the workshop where the conservators did their work, and then I got it back into the cathedral and back into position.

I worked on the Chapter House, which took seven years to do. I did a large percentage of the secondary glazing, which is the clear glazing round the Nave and the top end of the Cathedral. The Cathedral also does commission work, so I went to most of the Cathedrals and Churches in Kent over the 12 years I was there. After I was made redundant, my close friend, Sid Solloway, helped me to start my own business.

We called it Glass and Things because we did anything basically. It went from terrariums, a cross between a plant-pot and a green-

house used by the navy to bring plants back from expeditions, to mirrors to pubs to whatever.

Our claim to fame is we worked on the refurbishment of St Pancras train station. We did both sides of the platform and across the back, as they needed specialised glaziers for the doors and windows.

Q How has business been?

A We opened seven or eight years ago and it has been great until a couple of years ago when the credit crunch hit. We used to have three employees here and we've unfortunately had to lose all of them, and we are now back to me, the wife and Sid.

Business is gradually picking up at the moment, but stained glass is a luxury item – people either want their window or they don't want it and sometimes they can live without it. As for the cut-sized glass, we have our regulars who know we are here, but other people don't know we exist, which is quite sad really.

Q What is the secret to beautiful stained glass?

A I suppose it is the materials and the design at the end of the day. We always say to people we don't have to like the design. They come in with their idea and we make what they want. We don't even choose the colours. We

hold their hands for the colours of the glass but we always say we don't have to wake up to it in the morning.

My wife and I don't have any stained glass in our house at all. The sole reason is I doubt we could ever agree to a design or a colour that we would go for. People come in here, they bring in their ideas and we do what they ask for.

Q If you could take on any project with stained glass, what would it be?

A An entire stately home would be nice, with leaded lights and stained glass. But we really like Joe Bloggs who walks in the door with their one-off stained glass panel for their front door or for their entrance hall.

We've done some quirky things in the past. We've done a pair of shoes in glass as a shoe company wanted some stained glass shoes to sit on a table-top to advertise with. We did a terrarium that was four foot long, two foot tall by three foot wide, and that weighed a tonne! Our catchphrase is that we can do anything in glass, so in that way it can be quite strange.

Q How often is the glass in the cathedral replaced?

A They have a full-time team of conservators working on it continuously – it's a bit like the Forth Bridge. • Glass and Things has started running workshops for those interested in making their own stained glass. Prices are £10 per hour, or £50 to £75 for a 10am to 4pm course, not including materials.

Q & A

Glass and Things owner Tim Young talks to reporter **Jenny Armstrong** about the art of making stained glass windows, the special projects he's been involved with during his career and business since the recession



You were concerned about burglary in Swale



Last year, 90% of people taken to court in Kent and Medway for burglary were guilty, resulting in over 700 convictions. Shut it, lock it, keep it

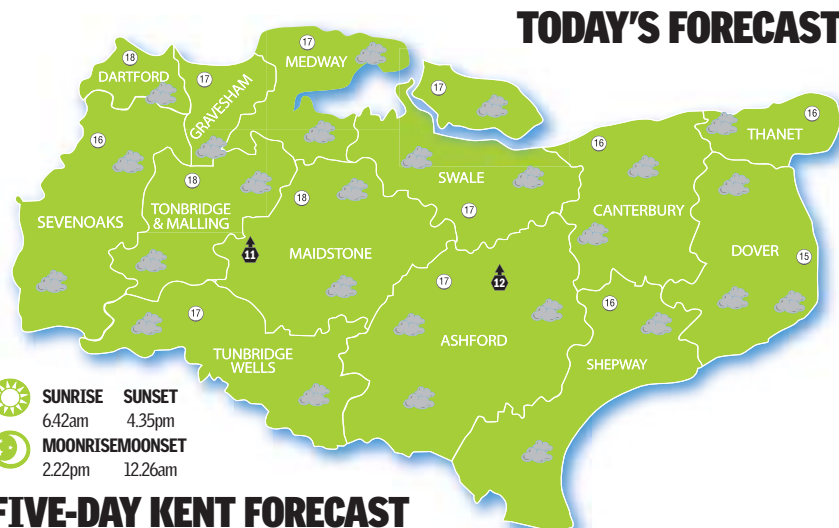


For actions on priorities where you live visit: **www.kent.police.uk/yousaidwedid**
To report non-urgent crime and anti-social behaviour, call **01622 690690**
In an emergency, dial **999**. For the deaf and speech impaired, text 'Police' to **60066**



yourweather

WEATHER UPDATES 24 HOURS A DAY @ www.kentnews.co.uk



WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	10:40am	5.5m
	Sunday	11:23am	5.7m
Dover	Saturday	9:04am	6.1m
	Sunday	9:37am	6.3m
Dungeness	Saturday	9:06am	6.9m
	Sunday	9:46am	7.3m
Ramsgate	Saturday	9:34am	4.6m
	Sunday	10:07am	4.8m
Sheerness	Saturday	10:29am	5.3m
	Sunday	11:12am	5.5m
Whitstable	Saturday	10:28am	4.9m
	Sunday	11:08am	5.0m

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	17°C	18°C	17°C	17°C	17°C
Canterbury	15°C	16°C	16°C	16°C	16°C
Chatham	16°C	17°C	16°C	17°C	17°C
Dartford	17°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	18°C
Dover	15°C	15°C	15°C	15°C	15°C
Faversham	16°C	17°C	16°C	17°C	17°C
Folkestone	15°C	15°C	15°C	15°C	15°C
Gillingham	16°C	17°C	16°C	17°C	17°C

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Gravesend	17°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	18°C
Maidstone	17°C	18°C	17°C	17°C	18°C
Ramsgate	15°C	16°C	16°C	16°C	16°C
Rochester	16°C	17°C	16°C	17°C	17°C
Sevenoaks	15°C	16°C	15°C	16°C	16°C
Sittingbourne	16°C	17°C	16°C	17°C	17°C
Tonbridge	16°C	17°C	17°C	17°C	17°C
Tun Wells	16°C	17°C	17°C	17°C	17°C

AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	14°C	Madrid	23°C
Athens	22°C	New York	15°C
Barcelona	21°C	Paris	17°C
Beijing	19°C	Rome	20°C
Bombay	34°C	Sydney	17°C
Cape Town	25°C	Tenerife	25°C
Cardiff	15°C	Tokyo	15°C
Gibraltar	21°C	Vancouver	8°C
Hong Kong	29°C	Warsaw	10°C
Las Palmas	25°C	Wellington	16°C



PROUD: Swale Adrian Crowther (centre) presents award to Spice Lounge owner Ali Rokib (left) and staff member

Restaurant hot pick at business awards

THE Spice Lounge restaurant in Faversham has proved just how hot it is after scooping the Swale best business award.

Twelve finalists battled it out for the top prize awarded for the area by the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) but owner Ali Rokib said his company had the magic ingredients all along.

He said: "We have a professional and friendly team of staff and our chefs are trained at the five-star Taj Hotel Group in India. We are proud to receive this award, especially as we are the first Indian restaurant in Swale to do so."

Delighted

The award ceremony took place at the Kent Science Park in Sittingbourne with the Mayor of Swale, Adrian Crowther, presiding over events.

The Spice Lounge is no stranger to award ceremonies having picked up an array of awards already, including best newcomer at the British Curry Awards.

While Mr Rokib is delighted to receive such recognition, he also believes in sharing his success.

He said: "The restaurant has raised £4,000 for local charities over the past couple of years and we plan to continue raising money for good causes. Being on top during the hard hit recession, when many businesses are failing, makes us more determined to help the community."

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Award Winning Company



ASK THE CHIEF



Chief Constable Michael Fuller answers readers' questions as part of our A Safer Kent Campaign. See all of your questions and answers at www.kentnews.co.uk

QUESTION: What do you think about the zero-tolerance policy adopted in New York?

Patricia Burton, Folkestone

ANSWER: The concept of zero-tolerance policing was made famous in the mid-90s by New York mayor Rudy Giuliani and works on the assumption that by quickly and firmly addressing minor problems within a locality, a strong message is sent out that more serious crime will not be tolerated.

However, this approach has attracted criticism for removing officer discretion and unnecessarily criminalising large numbers of local people, and there is still much debate among criminologists as to its effectiveness at actually reducing levels of crime.

Kent Police are committed to dealing with low-level crime and antisocial behaviour, and we target this through our local neighbourhood policing teams and the recently-introduced neighbourhood task teams. I strongly believe we need to achieve this in partnership with local communities and that my officers need to retain the ability to exercise discretion and use their own common sense – something the public would quite rightly expect.

QUESTION: Can you explain why for many years your officers have allowed hundreds of speeding motorcyclists to use the roads in and out of Tenterden every summer weekend as a virtual TT course?

Not only are they a menace to themselves, but to pedestrians and all other road-users as well. I have complained to the previous holder of your position, but nothing was ever done and I certainly have never seen a speed trap on our local roads.

Steps should, in my view, be taken now to prepare a rude awakening for these lawless idiots in time for next summer.

Peter Lake, Tenterden

ANSWER: Kent Police take the issue of speeding motorcyclists very seriously. In the Ashford district, which includes Tenterden, this important issue is treated as a priority in a number of wards following feedback from the PACT (Partners and Communities Together) processes in both rural and urban areas.

The subject of speeding motorcyclists forms part of our daily business and is incorporated into our 'You said, we did' information campaigns. Since the beginning of last month, 26 rural-road checks have been completed in the Tenterden area, resulting in 46 drivers being dealt with for a variety of offences.

In addition, a specialist motorbike team patrols areas where problems are identified and provides advice to riders. Its role specifically focuses on reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured on our roads, but also addresses antisocial behaviour by riders.

QUESTION: We are continually being told the crime rate is falling, but is that because the public feels reporting offences is pointless as the police appear disinterested?

Patricia Burton, Folkestone

ANSWER: Kent Police set priorities to tackle antisocial behaviour and crime. We achieve this by ensuring our emergency response patrols react to calls for assistance that need immediate attendance. Kent Police's Initial Crime Investigation Unit deals with all reports of crime that do not require the immediate attendance of a patrol. The unit consists of 60 investigators providing a round-the-clock service. The staff have specialised training to enable them to provide a quality investigation at the first point of contact with the caller, ensuring each caller receives the best possible service. At local level we have seen a marked increase in the number of crimes attended by police.

Antisocial behaviour and crime put in the spotlight

A THREE-WEEK crack-down on crime and antisocial behaviour was launched by Kent Police this week, *writes Jane Barlow*.

It will run until November 8 and will give the message that illegal and nuisance behaviour will not be tolerated while at the same time reassuring people the police and many other organisations are working together to make their communities safer.

During the three weeks, Kent Police will be working with local councils, Kent Fire and Rescue Service, Neighbourhood Watch, Clean Kent, the Probation Service, the Kent and Medway Camera Safety Partnership, Kent County Council and the Medway Unitary Authority.

The campaign will focus on three themes:

- Crime and disorder – this will include action to reduce incidents of antisocial behaviour associated with Halloween and fireworks
- Antisocial use of vehicles – this will include specialist patrols targeting those motorists who put lives at risk by speeding, using mobile phones while driving, not wearing seatbelts, or by driving uninsured, unroad-worthy, untaxed vehicles. Patrols will also target nuisance off-road motorcycling
- Environmental antisocial behaviour – activities will aim to improve the environment through the removal of graffiti, rubbish and abandoned and untaxed vehicles and the identification of individuals or companies responsible for flytipping.

Inspector Phil Hibben, who is co-ordinating police efforts across the county, said: "Antisocial behaviour and crime can have a significant impact on people's quality of life."

"During these three weeks the police will be working closely with local councils and other



COORDINATOR: Inspector Phil Hibben

agencies to tackle the issues that matter most to local people and bring offenders to justice.

"The darker evenings and a seasonal rise in casualties on the roads will mean we will also be targeting drivers who pose the greatest risk to other road-users."

"Specialist officers will be identifying and prosecuting drivers who drive in an antisocial manner."

Part of the campaign, called Operation Velo, will see police officers going out on their bikes rather than in patrol cars to speak with members of the public.

When Operation Velo ran at the end of August it resulted in 900 engagements with youngsters, who were given road safety advice.

The campaign will also include Operation Cubit, which is coordinated by KCC and removes untaxed and abandoned vehicles from the roads. The campaign also takes in Not In My Neighbourhood Week, which runs nationally from November 2-6.

During the three weeks, action planned across the county includes:

- In Maidstone PCSOs will be visiting shops selling fireworks to remind retailers about the law.
- Dover officers will be tackling inconsiderate parking outside schools.
- In Gravesend and Dartford, meetings will be held with retailers, at which Trading Standards and Kent Police will give advice.
- Ashford police officers will be going into secondary schools to speak about the dangers of playing with fireworks and about road safety. PCSOs will be recording number-plates of drivers not wearing seatbelts or using mobile phones at the wheel.

Officers from Ashford are expecting to be particularly busy on October 31 as the village of Pluckley is reportedly the country's most haunted place and there could be an influx of visitors.



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BREAK TIME

MP praises pupils for 'outstanding' exam success

SITTINGBOURNE and Sheppey's man in Westminster, Derek Wyatt MP, has congratulated pupils in his constituency on achieving some of the best results ever in their GCSEs.

Mr Wyatt's praise comes on the back of figures showing that children across Kent are performing above the national average.

Across Kent, 72 per cent of pupils left school this summer with 5 or more GCSEs at grade C or higher. This represents an improvement of 4.4 points since last year, 22.8 points on 10 years ago, and is 2.3 points above the national average.

And 51.7 per cent of pupils scored 5 Cs or above including the vital subjects of English and Maths, up from just 40.5 per cent in 1998, and 1.3 points higher than the national average.

Mr Wyatt said: "These results show just how outstanding the young people in our area are. It is great to see that almost all LEAs across the country have shown improvement, but especially good that results in Kent exceeded the national average."

"I would like to congratulate pupils on their results, and pay tribute to all their teachers, parents and support staff for their hard work and dedication in contributing to this success."



PHOTO CALL: Pupils from Highsted Grammar School with the cast of Cinderella, which will be put on at the Swallows Leisure Centre by New World Productions in December

Girls meet pantomime stars

GIRLS from Highsted School were taking a lunch break in Sittingbourne High Street when they were confronted by dancing pantomime artists.

They happily posed with Home and Away star Amy Mizzi who is playing Cinderella at Swale Christmas panto at the Swallows Leisure Centre from December 11 to 27.

Amy, who plays a teenager in the soap, said: "It was great to meet the girls – they seemed

to really get into the spirit of things."

The girls also took shots on their mobile phones as the cast hammed it up alongside the town centre bargeman statue and set off on an impromptu can-can.

Producer Gary Telfer said: "We're really looking forward to coming back to the area with Cinderella. It's got a great cast of TV stars and some amazing dancers. We know how popular the Sittingbourne pantomime is and we're really pleased to be producing the venue's professional show for the ninth year".

Director Guy Pascall – who was wearing a

blue pageboy outfit for the day – said: "The girls really seemed to enjoy posing alongside the cast and this is another illustration that the show is going to be great fun for all the family."

"Everyone remembers such wonderful characters as Buttons, The Ugly Sisters and The Fairy Godmother. This show will take the original story and give it a new twist as only New World Productions can, with great comedy routines and lots of surprises".

Tickets are priced at £6 to £11 and are available from the leisure centre box office.

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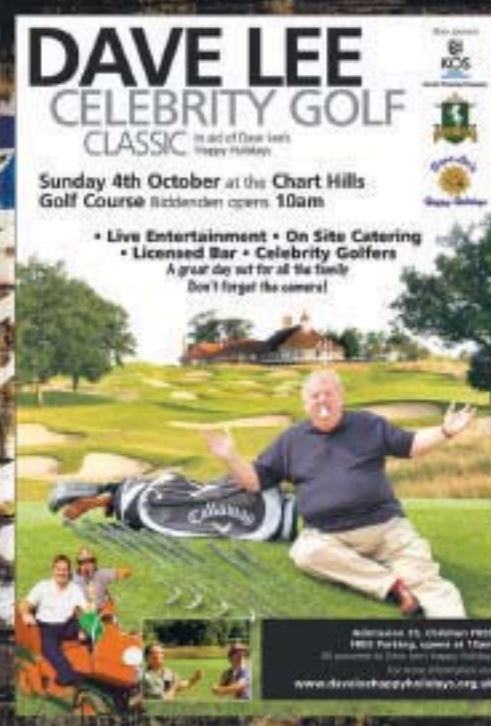
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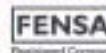
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yourswareblogger

Simon Robinson explains why readers should oppose Boris Johnson's floating airport scheme off Kent's coast



So many reasons we can't allow Boris's plans to take off

BORIS Johnson's barmy Thames Estuary airport plan must never touch down.

The hare-brained £40 billion proposal has numerous fatal flaws, most of which are so blatantly, smack-in-the-face obvious a child could point them out.

The floating airport proposal has been criticised for being too expensive, impractical, environmentally and ecologically unsound, unfeasible, unwanted and a host of other bad words.

Furthermore, it fails miserably against any set of criterion you may wish to stack it up against. Let's just consider one or two of the main drawbacks to plopping a huge six runway airport off the Kent coast.

First things first, there's the astronomical cost. With the £40 billion sum – that's £40,000 million or £40,000,000,000 – we could build the equivalent of ten London Heathrow Terminal 5's or buy Cristiano Ronaldo, the world's most expensive player, 500 times over.

Quite what we'd do with 500 Portuguese step-over merchants is another matter but that's beside the point.

Then there are the logistical issues.

The Mayor of London wants to build an airport in the middle of the Estuary, a few miles away from land. The airport would be served by two terminals, one in Kent, and one in Essex.

How would thousands of passengers get to and from these terminals each day?

They couldn't get there by car. Anyone who's tried to drive through Medway, Maidstone, Ashford, Canterbury, Dover or anywhere else around the county can vouch for the fact that the road network is on its knees.

Adding a few thousand extra cars to our roads is not only impractical, it's downright dangerous. And they won't get there by train either. Again, anyone who's been faced with a peak-time journey on Southeastern trains knows the carriages are already full to bursting and the customer satisfaction levels are somewhat short of 'acceptable', let alone 'good' or 'we need more passengers on board'.

Then you've got the ecological impact of building a six runway airport off Kent's wildlife-rich coast. This serene stretch is currently home to a whole host of migrating and breeding birds, many of which are rare or protected.

For all these reasons, and many, many more, Medway Council, Kent County Council and the RSPB have joined forces to oppose the plans. The partners have set up a website – www.stopestuaryairport.com – which Yourmedway supports. There are whispers around Whitehall that the mayor's estuary airport plans are simply political grandstanding of the highest order, diverting attention away from further developing London's airports ahead of next year's London elections.

But let's not take the risk. It's up to us to send a clear message to Boris that Kent does not want his airport.

We need names on the anti-airport petition to force the mayor to scrap his plane-stupid plans. Go build your airport somewhere where the transport network can cope and the environmental impact will be less devastating.

GET IN TOUCH...

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LET US KNOW...

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the editor, **Gary Wright**, on 01303 817032 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Swale blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the news editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to www.yoursware.co.uk.

Write to The Editor, Yoursware, KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

* We cannot guarantee all articles will be published and all are at the editor's discretion

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Some of the recipients of grants and awards (from top left)

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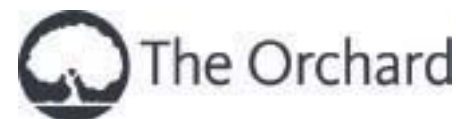
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THE Orchard in Dartford is proud to be hosting the premiere of the fabulous Blues Brothers Xmas Party from November 4-7, before the show embarks on its new UK tour. And to celebrate Jake and Elwood coming to town we have SEVEN pairs of tickets up for grabs for you to enjoy this feel-good musical!

Storming its way through hits including Soul Man, Everybody Needs Somebody To Love, Mustang Sally, Jailhouse Rock and a special Christmas Medley, The Blues Brothers Xmas Party has more baubles than you can shake your tail-feather at!

Simply answer the following question and email your answer, name, address and telephone number to marketing@orchardthe-

atre.co.uk by Sunday, November 1. Winners will be notified on Monday, November 2 and winning tickets will be for the performance on Wednesday, November 4 at 7.30pm. Alternatively you can post your entry on a postcard to Orchard Theatre, Home Gardens, Dartford, Kent, DA1 1ED.

Question: Which soul legend played the part of Reverend Cleophus James in the original Blues Brothers 1980 film?

Tickets will be reserved in the winner's name to be collected from The Orchard Ticket Office prior to the show. Please note that tickets cannot be transferred to any other time, date or show.

For further information on The Blues Brothers Xmas Party please call the The Orchard Ticket Office on 01322 220000 or visit www.orchardtheatre.co.uk.

For our full Terms and Conditions please visit www.kentnews.co.uk, or for a posted copy of the T&Cs call 01303 817073. If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.

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EMAIL: Email your letters to us at yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk

TALK TIME

KIM HILLS

Kim Hills Kent Highway Services head of community operations talks to us about keeping Kent's roads safe throughout winter



How was last year's weather when it came to keeping the roads clear?

Last winter was one of the wettest and coldest for over a decade. Due to our planning and preparations the majority of our roads were kept open, snow was cleared and we had enough salt in stock to carry out non-stop, night time salting. We are well prepared for the coming winter ahead.

How do you decide whether to send out the lorries or keep them in the depot?

We have 53 lorries which operate in Kent. From mid-October to mid-April we monitor the weather closely. Information is gathered every hour from 13 weather stations and then merged with a detailed weather forecast. The resulting information is issued to us three times a day by our forecast agency and specially trained winter duty officers assess this and turn it into a Kent Road Weather Forecast.

This year I believe you are using new technology to keep the roads clear?

We will be using a new pre-wet salt system on some of our roads. The salt is sprayed with water as it comes out of the back of the lorry. This means that it sticks to the road better and does not get blown away by the wind. It also means that we do not have to use as much salt. We estimate this system uses about 30 per cent less.

Are there alternatives to using salt?

There are materials which have been used on airport runways but they are more expensive and we could not afford to use them on the miles of road in Kent.

YOUR LETTERS



No reason to shut down car wash

I'm a regular user of the hand car wash in Faversham. They provide a first-class service at a sensible price.

They're polite, friendly and reliable, and I was furious when I read that the local authority has refused planning permission.

If their business is shut down it's not only the families who will suffer – the landowner will lose the rent they pay and the plot will be even more susceptible to vandalism.

Perhaps the council would prefer to see all of these people claiming benefits because they've been deprived of a way of earning a legitimate income?

So a hand car-washing facility is not suitable or acceptable in this countryside location?

Has whoever made this decision ever visited the location? It's on a very busy junction on the A2.

There's a petrol station directly opposite and the busy, thriving Macknade Fine Foods complex is just across the road, with its large car park.

What's so unsuitable or unac-



COMMENT ONLINE TOO

NOT only can you use email and letters to respond to our stories, don't forget you can comment via our website too.

Beneath most stories on the www.yourswale.co.uk website there is the facility to leave your comments on whatever YOU thought of the online article. To leave your remarks, simply click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think. And remember, www.yourswale.co.uk is updated daily, bringing you the latest, breaking news from across Faversham, Sittingbourne, Sheerness and all the villages in Swale.

We will include the best on these pages too – ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience. In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of Yourswale before you've picked up your copy, you never need to miss out.

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ceptable about a hand car wash that's hidden from the road by shrubbery? It's NOT countryside.

Swale Council were happy to grant planning permission for a small housing estate to be built directly opposite on the corner of

Love Lane, but given the common practice of property developers offering incentives to local authorities, perhaps we can understand why this wasn't declined on similar grounds.

The fact that there's an appeals

process infers that the decision that has been made is the result of someone's 'interpretation' of the current local plan.

Yes, it's necessary to have planning laws, but sometimes I just wish those who enforce those laws could use a little common sense and discretion.

What harm would it do to allow limited variance that would allow them to continue without opening the door to a similar but less acceptable occupation of the land at a future date?

Kerry Kenton-Clarke, from Faversham, by email.

Airport expansion bad for climate

First, some really good news: in 2008, global investment in renewable forms of energy was greater than that for fossil fuels.

And Swale is playing its part, not least because the London Array Windfarm has its substation at Cleve Hill near Graveney. When complete, this windfarm will supply a minimum of 650,000 homes.

But in the midst of this progress comes the bad news that Boris Johnson, Conservative Mayor of London, has obtained financial backing for an airport in the Thames Estuary.

If built, the noise of aircraft would affect everyone living near the north Kent coast, particularly Sheppey and Medway. It is also shortsighted – we simply cannot have aviation expansion and cut the emissions which add to climate change.

I hope readers will join me at the Climate March on December 5. This is an opportunity to show

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support for greener energy and oppose new airport expansion ahead of a UN summit this month to agree a global climate change treaty.

Caroline Lucas, Member of the European Parliament for Kent and Medway

• We don't want this mad idea or the expansion of Manston. Air travel must be cut to save the climate. I am a former frequent flyer but I have stopped flying anywhere. I take my holidays in this country or travel by rail/ship.

Barmy Boris will do anything to put his name in the history books.

Sue, Margate

Comment posted on www.yourmedway.co.uk

• It's all very well opposing Boris Island, while Paul Carter and his KCC cronies support an airport of six million passengers per year, therefore up to hundreds of flights per day at Manston.

Flights from this airport take off and land over Ramsgate. Planes are at less than 1,000 feet over the whole of Ramsgate. Herne Bay suffers at the other end of the runway.

If you really are speaking for the people of Kent, may I suggest you take a stance against a real threat to our quality of life in East Kent.

Steve Higgins, Ramsgate

Comment posted on www.yourmedway.co.uk

Hospital parking charges to go

I was delighted with the Health Secretary's recent announcement that car-parking charges at NHS hospitals are to be stopped.

My postbag, telephone calls and inbox showed that this was something that angered and inconvenienced patients in this constituency, and I shared their feelings on this.

For the last seven years I have been campaigning for this very result and I am very pleased it has come at last.

We can't do it overnight, but over the next three years, as we can afford it, the Government aims to phase out car-parking charges for in-patients, giving each a permit for the length of their stay which family and friends can use.

Derek Wyatt (Lab), MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey

Posters could save lives of students

The Meningitis Research Foundation (MRF) has launched its new student awareness posters to

highlight the increased risk of meningitis among students, particularly during the winter months.

The posters have been developed in consultation with students to communicate the symptoms of meningitis and septicaemia.

Students and young adults are the second most 'at-risk' group in the UK after children under five, and they are more vulnerable to the diseases when they come together in new environments.

It is vital that students know the symptoms of meningitis so they can distinguish between them and more common flu-like illnesses.

Every year in the UK there are around 3,300 cases of meningitis and septicaemia – the blood poisoning form of the disease. A death still occurs almost every day and a further two people are left with severe after-effects, such as brain damage, hearing loss and amputations.

The posters are available free at www.meningitis.org by calling MRF's Freephone 24 hour helpline – 080 8800 3344. Students can also get information direct to their phones by texting MRF to 82088. (This text will be a standard rate text. MRF will not charge you for the video but data charges from your operator will apply.)

Chris Head, MRF Chief Executive

Do you want to find out more about your local provider of NHS Community Services?

A Board Meeting held in public will take place on:

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Sheerness Leisure Centre, off Broadway, Sheerness, ME12 1HH

- Find out about future plans for NHS Community Services
- A chance to question senior staff
- Interactive display and information
- A signer will be available on the day
- Copies of the Agenda and papers will be available from Sheppey Community Hospital one week before the Board Meeting. They will also be available on our website, please visit www.eckcommunityservices.nhs.uk

For questions relating to the agenda please contact:

Pauline Gardiner

Corporate Services Manager

Tel: 01227 795037

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Dancing to a new tune

Last year's Strictly champion Alesha Dixon has seen an upturn in her career since she won TV audiences' hearts

ALESHA DIXON

Friday, November 6
Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone



CHAMPION dancer Alesha Dixon returns to the stage next week to perform for fans in Kent.

Since winning BBC's Strictly Come Dancing in 2007, Dixon has become a national sweetheart and her pop career has soared.

This year she was invited to return to the show as a judge, replacing Arlene Phillips on the panel, alongside Len Goodman, Bruno Tonioli and Craig Revel Horwood. Now a staple part of Saturday night television, Dixon, 31, is back on the road to entertain fans with her music.

Born in Hertfordshire, Dixon's early ambition was to become a PE teacher and she had been due to study at the sport-intensive Loughborough University.

But one fateful day she embarked on a train journey that would change her life – after being approached twice by music industry professionals who wanted to know if she could sing, Dixon decided to investigate a new career.

While taking dance lessons, she met Sabrina Washington, who joined her in the line-up of Mis-Teeq, an R&B girl group who would take the charts by storm in the early 2000s with hits such as Why?, All I Want, B With Me and Scandalous. The group disbanded in 2005 and Dixon achieved moderate success in the early stages of her solo career.

Dixon experienced a personal low when she discovered that her husband, MC Harvey of So Solid Crew, had been having an affair with Popstars The Rivals star Javine Hylton.

Combined with professional worries, this led to Dixon suffering from depression for several weeks before music turned her life around once again.

When she was asked to compete in Strictly Come Dancing in 2007, she amazed viewers with her warm personality and natural flair on the



dance-floor. Dixon was reportedly nervous about taking part in the show but, along with professional partner Matthew Cutler, she wowed audiences and the notoriously hard-to-please judges with her sizzling salsa and riotous rumba.

Her singing career also picked up

pace and she achieved two top-five singles with The Boy Does Nothing and Breathe Slow, while her album, The Alesha Show, went platinum this summer with sales of more than 300,000 copies.

To book tickets, call 0844 847 1776 or visit www.leascliffhall.org.uk.



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THE TRONDHEIM SOLOISTS

Friday, October 30
Canterbury Cathedral



THE final cathedral concert of this year's Canterbury Festival features one of the rising stars of international classical music.

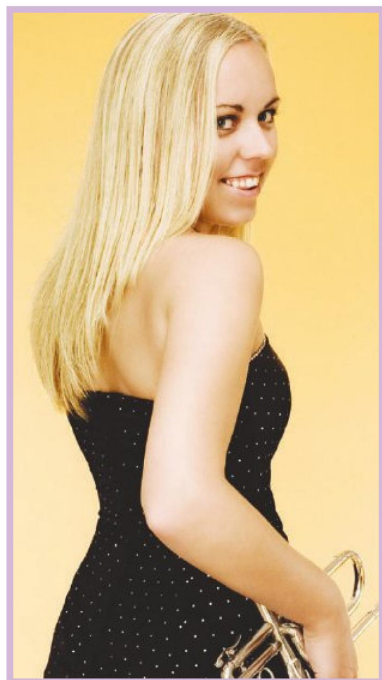
The Trondheim Soloists are joined by 22-year-old trumpet sensation Tine Thing Helseth (pictured), who is a major name among the new generation of brass soloists who bring focus and flair to the discipline.

The Norwegian trumpeter has many international performances and awards behind her and is already making a big noise in her field. She started playing the trumpet at the age of seven, building up an extensive repertoire of orchestral, recital and chamber music.

After winning second prize in the 2006 Eurovision Young Musicians finale in Vienna, she was named Newcomer of the Year at the Norwegian Grammy Awards.

Helseth will be performing with the Trondheim Soloists, Norway's Grammy-nominated ensemble which was selected as Editor's Choice in Gramophone Magazine.

The concert starts at 7.30pm and is sponsored by the Canterbury Festival Foundation (Friends) and The Seary Foundation. Tickets are priced from £8 to £20. To book call 01227 787787 or visit www.canterburyfestival.co.uk.



A CELEBRATION OF CULTURES

Saturday, October 31,
Wyvern Hall, Sittingbourne



EXPLORE a diverse array of arts and heritage from around the world at Swale – A Celebration of Cultures.

The busy programme features music, dance, film, performance, art, creative writing and music workshops, storytelling, fashion and demonstrations from around the world. The colourful entertainment starts at 10am when the Mayor of Swale, Adrian Crowther, opens the event with the help of the New Covenant Gospel Choir from Kensley.

Acrojou Circus Theatre and Afro/Brazilian dancers, Bloco Fogo (pictured), will be leading the grand parade along the High Street at 11am, guiding the crowds to the Wyvern Hall.



There will be many activities to represent many of the cultures in Swale, from the vibrant Jugnu Bhangra dancers to storytelling from the Gypsy and Travellers Association youth division.

Youngsters can make masks with local artists using recycled materials or have their hair braided,

while older people might like to relax with Swale Holistic Practitioners and admire the African fashion show, accompanied by the Grace Gospel Music Band.

Presented by Diversity House, the event runs from 10am to 4pm and admission is free. Find out more at www.diversityhouse.org.uk.

VAMPIRES ROCK

Sunday, November 1
Central Theatre, Chatham



GET on the highway to hell with Toyah Willcox as she demonstrates just how Vampires Rock.

The hit musical sees Willcox looking hot as 2,000-year-old Devil Queen, whose husband wants to trade her in for a younger model. Prepare for an air-guitar marathon as Willcox and co-star Steve Steinman belt out some of the best rock songs of all time.

Set in New York in 2030, Vampires Rock sees a young singer arrive to audition for the role of resident singer at night club, Live and Let Die. But the only job on offer is as the new bride of Baron von Rockula, much to his wife's annoyance.

The hellish tale is illustrated by classic tracks from such greats as Meat Loaf, Led Zeppelin, Guns 'N' Roses, AC/DC, Queen and Suzi Quatro.

During a career that has spanned more than 30 years, Willcox has maintained a successful presence on stage, screen and as a recording artist.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £20/£18.50. Book online at www.thecentraltheatre.co.uk or call the box office on 01634 338338.



SWALE LEISURE

Farm goes pink to back breast cancer charity

VISITORS to Farming World in Boughton could be in the pink if they show their support for the Breast Cancer Campaign.

As part of National Wear It Pink Day on Friday, Farming World will donate £2 of the admission fee for each visitor who 'wears it completely pink' that day. For more information call 01227 751144 or visit www.farming-world.co.uk.

Beauty and the Beast tell their story of love

DISCOVER the greatest love story of all time when Beauty and the Beast visits Sittingbourne and Norton.

Applause Rural Touring brings the acclaimed Fairgame Theatre's production to the Avenue Theatre in Sittingbourne on Thursday and Norton Village Hall on Friday. To book tickets for Sittingbourne call 01795 471140 or email admin@avenuetheatre.co.uk or call 01795 521581 for the Norton show.

Learn through art at village hall exhibition

LEARN about the shocking poverty and child-trafficking in Moldova, Europe's poorest country.

Art, Woodland, Poverty and Trafficking is an exhibition at Selling Village Hall on Saturday and Sunday. It includes The Big Draw, with workshops and demonstrations. It is open from 10.30am to 4pm on Saturday and 11am to 4.30pm on Sunday. Admission is free.

Join in, or just relax and enjoy the music

BRING a song or an instrument and enjoy an evening of good company at Faversham Folk Club's singers' night. Anyone is welcome to join in the singing, play a tune or just listen at the Chimney Boy in Preston Street, Faversham, next Wednesday. The fun starts at 8.30pm and admission costs £1.

For more information call 01795 423674.

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This truly relaxing experience can be added to as diners sit back with a perfectly-chilled glass of Champagne or an expertly-mixed cocktail in the conservatory, while choosing from the first-class menu and extensive wine list.

Those who have enjoyed the atmosphere include former Prime Minister Tony Blair and comedians such as Bernard Manning, Freddie Star and musicians Gerry and the Pacemakers.

There is even a celebrity corner for guests and diners to check out who has enjoyed this great experience before them. The restaurant has also appeared on BBC TV.



It is open to non-residents for dinner each evening – but to make the experience complete why not book a room and stay over.

The hotel is ideally situated for the centre of Gravesend, the local railway station and

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Dessert: No better way to finish than with a coffee
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GET ready for the party season in style with fashion designer Pearl Lowe's collection of dresses for Peacocks.

Modelled by her daughter, TV presenter Daisy Lowe, the range gives customers the chance to wear designer style at high-street prices.

The five vintage-inspired party dresses are available in sizes eight to 16 and are priced from £35 to £40.

The collection will be available from selected Peacocks stores from Monday.

Goods Shed selected for a Radio 4 award

A CANTERBURY daily market has been selected as a finalist in the BBC Radio 4 Food and Farming Awards 2009.

The Goods Shed will compete against businesses from Suffolk and Cardiff to win the title of Best Food Market.

Another Kent business, Dungeness fishmonger M&M Richardson, is a finalist in the Best Local Food Retailer category.

The panel of judges is chaired by chef Raymond Blanc and the award ceremony will take place in London, November 25.

Aussie lingerie at low prices at Outlet store

LADIES can buy superior lingerie at discount prices when Bendon Lingerie opens at Ashford Designer Outlet.

Popular down under for its products with up to 70 per cent off normal retail prices, Bendon Lingerie offers Australasian brands such as Elle Macpherson Intimates, Fayreform and the store's own range.

The company also offers a bra-fitting service. Bendon Lingerie opens on Saturday. You can find out more at www.ashforddesigneroutlet.com.

Don't be blind to trends, get your paws on these

TAKE a walk on the wild side and add a touch of danger to your living room with an animal-print blind.

Animal-print is a big trend both on the catwalks and in interior design, so give your home extra texture by getting your paws on a trendy monochrome, faux fur blind.

Products such as the Snow Leopard Roman blind are available online at www.web-blinds.com priced from £109.

Visit the website to see the full range.

KOS MEDIA READER OFFER

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Radio One's 'Mr Marmite' on the decks at clubnight



HEADLINER: Zane Lowe covers the musical spectrum

■ BY **SIMON ROBINSON**

KIWI DJ Zane Lowe will come to Maidstone next month to headline a Mixmag magazine clubnight.

The straggly-bearded MTV presenter and third most annoying Radio 1 host* will take to The Loft nightclub's decks on Saturday, November 7.

Mr Lowe is joined on the bill by fellow BBC staffers Andy George and Jaymo, as well as Mixmag DJs I Am One and Matt Cox.

A spokesman for organisers 666 said they were looking forward to welcoming the night's headliner to Maidstone.

"This will be Zane Lowe's second performance in Maidstone following his immense set at last year's Radio 1 Big Weekend, and as one of the most in-demand DJs on the planet, this is a tremendous coup for Kent's number one music club," he said.

"Anyone who listens to Zane's outstanding Radio 1 show knows he covers the entire musical spectrum, and we expect his DJ set to be no different as he headlines one of the biggest nights ever at The Loft.

"This event will sell out, so buy your ticket early to avoid missing out."

The line-up also includes big-hitting DJs such as Friction and Technicolour.

Support will also be provided by the likes of Twisted DJs, Mart Taylor, Unknown Error, Duncan K and Hijak Allstars.

The night runs from 9pm to 6am at the Maidstone town centre club.

Tickets cost £12 per person and can be bought at www.dontstayin.com



SUPPORT: BBC staffers Andy George and Jaymo

*Congratulations go to Mr Chris Moyles (first place) and Mr Tim Westwood (a close second).

The Beeb has a proud history in employing musical 'Mr Marmites'; the love 'em or loathe them types – the DJs who are to radio what Jeremy Kyle is to television.


And these three men together – Messrs Lowe, Moyles and Westwood – ensure my radio dial never reaches the dark, dark figures of 97 to 99 fm.

They are BBC employees, and therefore bound by the corporation's mandate of 'inform, educate and entertain'.


So why do we have an obnoxious northerner (Moyles) and his partner-in-crime 'comedy' Dave, a privately-educated, middle-class Anglican bishop's son turned hip-hop/grime know-it-all and drive-by shooting victim (Westwood) and a sickeningly sycophantic indie/dance DJ (Lowe) polluting our airwaves? Just my opinion, mind.

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 Kingskin perform at the Create Festival, Ashford



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- 1 The Geoff Everett Band - 6/11 The Royal Standard, Hastings
- 2 Hugo - 11/11 The Barge, Gillingham
- 3 CWB - 14/11 The View, Folkestone
- 4 Shychlo and Boys - 19/11 Beer Cart Arms, Canterbury
- 5 The Suspects - 20/11 The Plough, Swalecliffe

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ON GENERAL RELEASE

COUPLES RETREAT (15)



Love is a battlefield – and in Peter Billingsley's comedy, co-written by co-stars Vince Vaughn and Jon Favreau, enemy lines are drawn on a beautiful remote Pacific Ocean island.

UP (U)



The latest masterpiece from Pixar is an airborne adventure in the company of a cranky old man and an excitable young boy. The opening 10 minutes are among the finest Pixar has ever crafted.

CIRQUE DU FREAK: THE VAMPIRE'S ASSISTANT (12A)



Paul Weitz directs and co-writes this spooky fantasy based on the popular series of books by Darren Shan. Chris Massoglia stars as the A-student who joins the undead in order to save his friend's life.

Piven finally gets chance to show us all The Goods

■ BY LISA WILLIAMS

JEREMY Piven must feel like the three-time bridesmaid who has finally made it down the aisle as a bride.

After all, the actor has carved out a sturdy career playing supporting roles in films such as Grosse Pointe Blanc, Old School and RocknRolla, and now, at the age of 44, he has finally landed a lead film role, as smooth-talking car salesman Don Ready in the comedy The Goods: Live Hard, Sell Hard.

"It was like sticking around the party for a little bit longer," Piven says about playing the lead. "It was a great thing for me, and I feel like I've been practising that for at least 20 years and so that's maybe why I have something to offer. Whether I'm carrying the movie or not, it doesn't matter, but to carve out that lead role is a great gift and I'd love to continue that."

The casting choice could be down, in part, to Piven having made a name for himself playing ruthless Hollywood agent Ari Gold in US TV series Entourage.

Some of Ari can even be seen in The Goods' Don Ready, who lives for work and will do anything and say anything to sell a car.

He leads a crack team of sales specialists who spend their lives on the road, travelling to whichever car showroom needs to rejuvenate its sales. But this isn't a film about sales techniques, rather about the friendship between Don's motley crew and his own personal journey as he begins to question his commitment-shy nomadic ways.

It is also packed with shocking jokes and one-liners. Don's team-mate Babs, played by Kathryn Jahn, falls in love with a ten-year-old, a Korean salesman gets beaten up by his colleagues in an apparent 'hate crime' and sever-



IN THE LEAD: Jeremy Piven stars in controversial role

al scenes are set in the salacious surroundings of a strip club.

Piven stands by the humour, despite complaints from some about its lack of taste.

"I really thought it was all very funny, I was not offended," he says earnestly.

But one line in particular, in which Babs declares what she would do if Don pulls off a hard sell (too rude to be repeated here), almost got Piven into trouble at a screening.

"I was watching the movie with Tony Romo, the American football player, and when he heard Babs's line, he choked," says Piven.

"He was eating chips and he was laughing so hard, he started choking. I thought I'd killed Tony Romo. Here it would be like killing David Beckham – it was a scary moment."

Piven's easy-going manner and gift for comic timing may be one of the reasons he has landed friends such as the aforementioned sportsman, as well as John Cusack, Dustin Hoffman

VIEW THIS PREVIEW

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and rapper Common.

But on the whole, Piven remains guarded about his private life, preferring to offer up a joke or an anecdote than to speak frankly about his personal affairs.

Is this a deliberate move?

"Yes, I think it is," Piven admits.

"If you parade your private life in public I think it robs you of your anonymity and I don't know how healthy that is.

"I'm just trying to figure out a way to be a decent person and a working actor."

That said, he is frank enough to admit that he is "single right now".

"I'm absolutely looking for someone – why not?" he adds, offering hope to the many who swoon at his swarthy good looks.

THE GOODS: LIVE HARD, SELL HARD

Certificate 15



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PEEP SHOW
Channel 4, 10pm, Friday

Jeremy, played by Robert Webb, is a far less agreeable character whose selfishness and workshy nature know no bounds, although his band-mate Super Hans makes him look like a saint.



All of this series, and the entire previous series, are available to watch on Channel 4's On Demand internet service if, like me, you didn't have the brain to tune in many years ago.

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE BY RUSSELL GRANT

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Calls cost 75p per minute. Service provided by o8wave London N7

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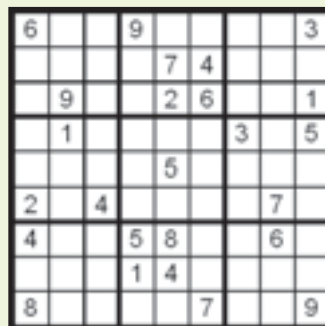
CROSSWORD & SUDOKU

No111

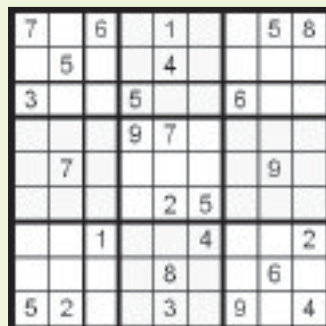
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Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9

EASY



MEDIUM



HARD



CRYPTIC CLUES

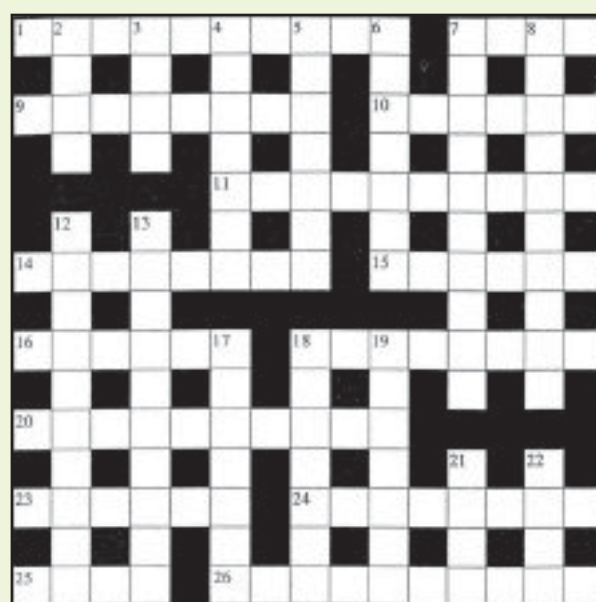
ACROSS

- 1 Penny entered cut that had been reduced at time of landing (10)
7 Leg-pull, short-cut after half-hour (4)
9 Ward for accident-prone child? (8)
10 In truth remarkable livery (6)
11 Active diminutive lady has house-plant (4,6)
14 Monthly? Imposingly (8)
15 Pulled US journalist (6)
16 Seaweed, pronouncedly icy, on fungus (6)
18 Go-between reached agencies' high point (8)
20 It costs the traveller nothing (4,6)
23 Bach and Elgar included another composer (6)
24 Bird's pale headgear (8)
25 Support one in pen (4)
26 Tourist who does not fall over at night? (3-7)

DOWN

- 2 A pet playing with fuel (4)
3 One weird flower (4)
4 A politician in shed having fish (7)
5 Body's losing head, sure to turn up in epic (7)
6 Something new found in cracker (7)
7 Level line soaring interminably (10)
8 Greatest ever depression, this depth has never been reached before (3-4,3)
12 Urgent, a jug ordered from lorry (10)
13 One of 28 parts of a week? (7-3)
17 The French youngster outside was discouraged (7)
18 Advance, create established routine (4,3)
19 It's more crazy having Dorothy on the level (7)
21 & 22 Eek! Speak about souvenir (8)

SCRIBBLE HERE



QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Dachshund (7,3)
7 Brandish (4)
9 Register one's departure from work (5,3)
10 Stinging plant (6)
11 Speechless (10)
14 Splinted (anag.) (5,3)
15 Scanty (6)
16 Sir (6)
18 Parasol (8)
20 Whimsicality (10)
23 Senior journalist (6)
24 Taken into the body (8)
25 Reptile (abbrev.) (4)
26 Linger (5-5)

DOWN

- 2 Spindle (4)
3 Draw into the mouth (4)
4 Tynesider (7)
5 Slandered (7)
6 First OT book (7)
7 Flawless (10)
8 Old bicycle (10)
12 High kick in rugby (2-3-5)
13 Nationalistic (10)
17 Instructed (7)
18 Particular (7)
19 Bouquet (7)
21 Continent (4)
22 Zing (4)

Thanet's Live Music Scene

Thursday 29th October

Ben Cuddy Johnny Cash Tribute

The New Inn, 2 Delf Street, Sandwich 01304 612335

Friday 30th October

Hard Road Blues

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 31st October

Nearly Famous

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713

Tuesday 3rd November

One Love

The New Inn, 2 Delf Street, Sandwich 01304 612335

Thursday 5th November

Rich Phillips

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Friday 6th November

Bad Pennies

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 7th November

Hot Load Welcome

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 7th November

Andy Mac

Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street, Broadstairs 01843 861108

Tuesday 10th November

Roger Betts

The New Inn, 2 Delf Street, Sandwich 01304 612335

Friday 13th November

Moscow Riley

The Red Lion, 1 King Street, Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 14th November

Breeze

Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street, Broadstairs 01843 861108

Saturday 14th November

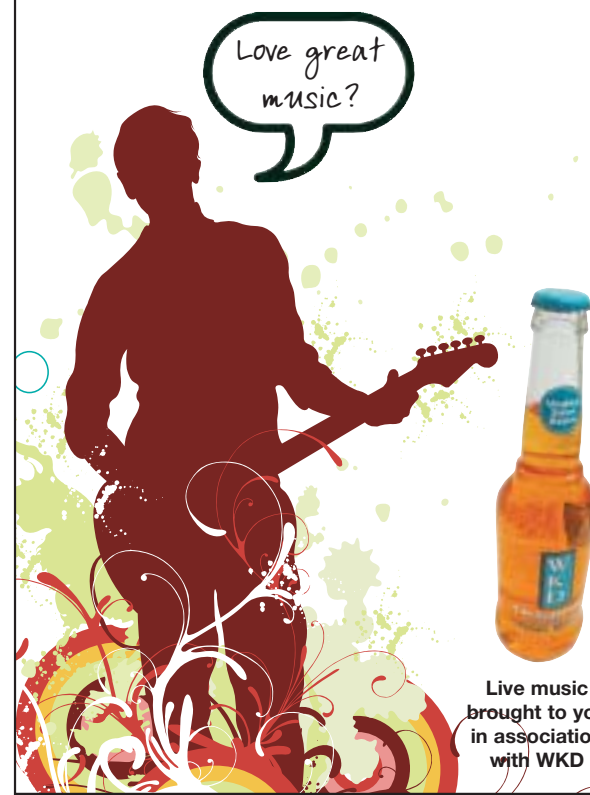
The Fling

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Saturday 21st November

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EASY



MEDIUM



HARD



CRYPTIC SOLUTION No110

ACROSS: 1 Blockbuster 9 Stolid 10 Routine 12 Railing 14 Nonagon 15 Junction box 16 Rub 17 Dip 19 Kangaroo-hop 22 Calends 23 Degrade 24 Ariadne 25 Sent in 26 Small change. DOWN: 2 Latvian 3 Cellist 4 Bud 5 Springboard 6 Equinox 7 Finger 8 Teeny-bopper 11 Prejudicial 13 Groundswell 18 Pelvis 19 Kingdom 20 Organza 21 Heading 25 Sic.


QUICK SOLUTION No111

ACROSS: 11 Sausage dog 7 Wave 9 Clock off 10 Nettle 11 Dumstruck 14 Split end 15 Skippy 16 Knight 18 Sunshad 20 Quinness 23 Editor 24 Ingested 25 Croc 26 Dilly-dally. DOWN: 2 Axle 3 Suck 4 George 5 Defamed 6 Genesis 7 Watertight 8 Velocipede 12 Up-and-under 13 Jingoistic 17 Tuford 18 Special 19 Nosegay 21 Asia 22 Zeal.

Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website

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Feeling bonnie about Edinburgh

BY CLAIRE WALKER

IN the relaxing surroundings of my room, it was easy to see why the five-star hotel is so popular with celebrities stopping off in Scotland's capital city.

The Scotsman is a short walk from Waverley Station, barely four-and-a-half hours by train from London, and close to the many landmarks of The Royal Mile. All the big names in fashion have a base here, including grand Harvey Nichols in St Andrew Square.

The Scotsman has followed Edinburgh's ethos: enhance the old and embrace the new by teaming traditional elegance with contemporary class to create an exclusive yet rather warm and welcoming environment.

The city is famed for its dramatic beauty, and our spacious suite afforded a captivating 180-degree view to the east, taking in the imposing outline of Calton Hill and the blue waters of the Firth of Forth in the distance.

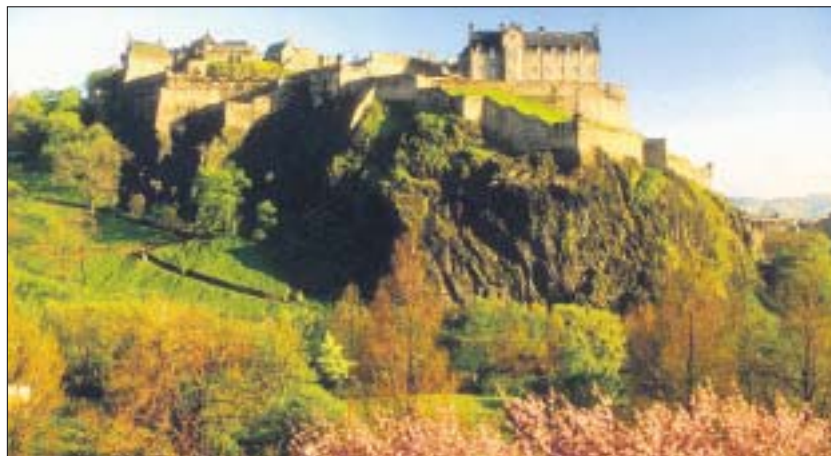
After a morning in the city I visited the spa for some well-deserved pampering.

The spa, like the hotel, is exclusive but not intimidating. I chose the Indocean body treatment, and despite sporting little more than paper pants, felt entirely relaxed in the warm and comforting treatment room.

Leaving the luxury lifestyle of the hotel might be a chore, but there are too many world-famous landmarks nearby to ignore.

Just a stone's throw away from the hotel is The Royal Mile, with Edinburgh Castle at the western end and the amazing Scottish Parliament building in the opposite direction, at the top end of Canongate.

Having stormed the castle on countless occasions as a child, I instead paid my first visit to



SCENE TO BELIEVE IT: Edinburgh is famed for its dramatic beauty and has lots to offer visitors all through the year

the High Street's second-most famous structure, St Giles Cathedral.

With its stunning architecture and famed crown spire, it's an impressive sight even for non-believers.

As I wandered through narrow closes and hidden courtyards I could imagine myself living in the days of legendary poet Robert Burns, infamous businessman/burglar Deacon Brodie and the tragically faithful Skye Terrier Greyfriars Bobby.

It wasn't long before the dreich Scottish weather prevailed of course. My sanctuary from the rain, for another memorable vista of Auld Reekie's iconic skyline, was the cocktail bar on the fourth floor of the city's Harvey Nichols store.

The summer months may be primetime for festival-goers, but for a luxury break with

plenty to do, Edinburgh has year-round appeal.

With children in tow, you must explore the Castle, for a unique insight into Scotland's history.

Free guided tours are recommended for first-time visitors, or you can simply wander around, losing yourself in the many winding corridors and turrets and taking in the spectacular views of the Firth of Forth as you stand atop the castle ramparts.

The walk up to the castle crosses the medieval Old Town, but the whole city is full of quirky little streets, jam-packed with independent shops and galleries.

Edinburgh also has The National Galleries of Scotland, an obvious choice for visiting art lovers, while fans of modern art find The Fruitmarket Gallery a big highlight.

FACT FILE: EDINBURGH

Time difference	0 (GMT)
Capital	of Scotland
Language	English
Population	800,000
Currency	Sterling
Religion	Christian

Travel Facts

Claire Walker was a guest of The Scotsman Hotel, which offers B&B from £140 per night. Reservations: 0131 556 5565 and reservations@thescotsmanhotel.co.uk. See www.theetoncollection.com for more details. Visit Scotland is promoting Edinburgh short breaks until November 30, starting at three nights for £99 per person. Full details at www.visitscotland.com/autumn. Enquiries: 0845 225 5121 and info@visitscotland.com.

This publicly-funded exhibition space houses world-class art by international artists and homegrown talent, in an easily-accessible and welcoming atmosphere – free of charge.

Those short on time can explore the city by open-top bus, but by far the best way to see it is on foot.

A hike up Arthur's Seat blows the cobwebs away, and the views from the top of this extinct volcano make the effort worthwhile.

Start your walk from beside Holyrood Palace and take the route over the Salisbury Crags before rewarding yourself with a well-earned rest at The Sheep's Heid Inn, famed for bar lunches, and its skittle alley.

In the well-to-do West End, search out Falko Konditorei, a German bakery which uses traditional handcrafted methods to create some of the best cakes in the city.

After a first taste of Edinburgh, you'll be back to discover more.

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WOMEN seeking men

MY EVERYTHING Ashford based, bubbly and fun single mum, 23yr old, curvy build, brunettes, likes reading and socialising. WLTm like minded male. Box 457472 **1**

MATCH OF THE DAY! Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5ft2, a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494 **1**

NOT YOUR BROWN-EYED GIRL, BUT... Blue-eyed brunette, 27, 5ft1, loves films, walking, darts, pool, singing, me time! Looking for honest guy with GSOH, to get to know. Box 880105 **1**

IS ANYONE OUT THERE? 31yr old easygoing, independent female, WLTm cuddly fella to enjoy the finer things in life with, leading to LTR with the right person. Box 879391 **1**

GIVE AND TAKE IN LOVE Loving loyal female, 30, blue eyes, brown hair, seeking LTR with male 30-35, 6ft+, no baggage, in the Maidstone area. Box 448471 **1**

A FAIRYTALE ENDING! Princess Fiona, 34, looking to meet her Shrek, 5ft8, short brown/blonde hair, blue eyes, large build, seeks romantic caring guy for friendship, maybe more! Box 877957 **1**

HAPPY DAYS! Attractive, fun-loving female, 35, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTm intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734 **1**

FEAST YOUR EYES ON ME... Hello I'm Andrea, 35, petite 5ft3, shoulder length curly hair, enjoys eating out, cinema and I'm looking for friendship and possible long term relationship. Box 453036 **1**

SEALED WITH A KISS Petite lady, 36, long hair, blue eyes, single mum, enjoys holidays, wine and dining, laughing, seeks loyal, loving man for friendship and more. Box 453079 **1**

STARRY NIGHTS Hello I'm Sarah, single mum from Kent, brown hair enjoy swimming nights in/out looking for a caring man to share the best things in life. Box 878373 **1**

WHAT YOU SEE... Young looking 36 year old, 5ft4, brown eyes, slim, one daughter, hard working, very sincere and caring, genuine, GSOH, seeks similar male 33-43. Rochester. Box 460307 **1**

HISTORIC MEETING? Mum of three, 36, long mousy hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out, seeks kind, caring, genuine male 36-49, non-smoker, for LTR. Box 450493 **1**

GALLOP AHEAD! Maidstone-based woman, 36, 5ft5, slim build, blue eyes, I'm caring, honest and have 4 children, enjoys drives and horse riding, and WLTm honest, reliable man. Box 451311 **1**

BE MINE Honest and caring woman, 36, 5ft5, slim build, blue eyes, I'm caring, honest and have 4 children, enjoys drives and horse riding. Maidstone. Box 456159 **1**

LOVE TO LOVE YOU Lovely female, 36, 5ft4, medium/large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102 **1**

JUST ONE QUESTION... A warm, generous, attractive and caring lady, 40, seeks soulmate who will love, respect and cherish her. What's taking you so long? Box 873458 **1**

CUTE AS CAN BE Cute single mum of four, 38, Kent-based, into most things, looking for friendship, possibly romance. Box 897983 **1**

YOU CAN'T RESIST... Fun loving intelligent lady, 39, blonde, attractive, GSOH, lots of energy, one daughter, now looking for that special man to share life with. Tonbridge. Box 459991 **1**

A SOUL MATE Black Christian girl, 39, likes country music, loving, considerate, kind and caring, looking for a like-minded man, 32-50, with a pretty inside. Box 453066 **1**

WANNA RIDE WITH YOU Curvaceous lady, 40, 5ft8, long curly hair, into motorbikes! Single mum, seeks fun-loving bike fan for rides into the sunset. Eastbourne. Box 458787 **1**

YOUNG-AT-HEART Attractive 39yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun, man for friendship/relationship. Box 901893 **1**

A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE Lovely, glossy brunette, 39yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatre, music and eating out, WLTm a professional, loving and tactile male for a relationship. Box 442551 **1**

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JOINED AT THE HIP Sociable petite girl with great SOH, 40, blonde, sociable, love football! Looking for fun guy with great SOH for inseparable partnership. Box 880434 **1**

TLC ON OFFER Bubbly, happy, outgoing 41yr old female, enjoying life to the full, like writing, walking, watching DVDs, WLTm like-minded, happy-go-lucky, clean male for friendship and more. Box 459271 **1**

PRETTY IN PINK Feminine lady, 41, no children some pets, like pink, pop music, astrology, dining out, dancing and singing, collectibles, seeking a man with a nice soh. Box 460397 **1**

BETWEEN US Asian lady, 41, single, no ties, outgoing, fun-loving, professional, looking for white male, genuine, professional and solvent. Box 451900 **1**

FOR A RELATIONSHIP? Shy but confident-one known female, a mum, 40, likes socialising, tennis, walks, swimming; seeks gent with similar interests to find hopeful love with. Box 452106 **1**

LOVE IS ALL AROUND Happy-go-lucky, bubbly Blonde, 42, blue eyes, hard-working, love outings, looking for a nice, genuine guy for relationship. Bromley Box 454517 **1**

HELLO EVERYONE! Single dog-owner, 42, fun-loving, kind and loyal, likes meals out, weekends away, country walks, WLTm a non-smoking guy to share it all with. Seaford Box 454569 **1**

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HAPPY TIMES ARE HERE TO STAY Single mum, 42, 5ft6, likes fun nights out, cinema, meals out, cuddles and kisses, looking for a fun-loving gent to share happy times with. Ashford Box 459692 **1**

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU Audrey here, I live in Seaford, and WLTm caring man. I'm fun loving, loyal, honest, adventurous, and love animals, cooking, music, film, countryside. Box 872159 **1**

LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL Good-looking brunette from Kent, 43, 5ft10, likes bowling, eating in/out etc, looking for a good-looking guy, 35-45, with gosh for friendship/relationship. Box 450348 **1**

A CHANCE FOR ROMANCE Energetic 43yr old female, 5'9", short dark hair/blue eyes, slim, have grown up daughter, love the outdoors, cooking, good food, music, days out, country walks...Medway. Box 456868 **1**

TALL ORDER Curvy lady, 5ft9, 43yrs old, blonde hair/green eyes, I live in Deal in Kent, I'm down-to-earth and like being out and about. Box 456020 **1**

I SHOULD BE SO LUCKY Hello, I'm Karen, 42, dark brown hair, medium build, gosh, looking for a man with no issues and gosh who can enjoy life with me. Box 452204 **1**

ACTIVE TYPE Lively, energetic fun loving mum, 42, 5ft3, petite, pretty, blonde/brown hair, hazel eyes, WLTm honest, fun, mixed race/black gent, for lasting relationship. Box 451819 **1**

HOW YOU DOING? Attractive, curvy single mum, 44, kind, genuine, loyal and loving, seeking a man with similar qualities to share my life with. St Leonards-on-Sea. Box 459128 **1**

SWEET AS HONEY Petite, slim, honey-blond lady, 5'4" age 44, enjoys the seaside and horse-racing, looking for a dark-haired, genuine, honest and professional man, 25-50 in Brighton. Box 458485 **1**

LOVE TO MEET YOU Kind woman, 42, outgoing, happy-go-lucky, sometimes shy, likes gardening, socialising, travel, walks, looking for happy, fun fella. Aylesford Box 428464 **1**

STARTING OVER Divorced 45yr old cuddly woman, brown eyes/hair, likes swimming, animals, cinema, soaps, the beach. WLTm a honest, non-smoking man for friendship, maybe more. Ashford Box 878141 **1**

RECIPROCAL ROMANCE GSOH, honest, romantic and reliable woman, 45, dark blonde hair/blue eyes, WLTm honest and reliable man 40-55, likes reading, cooking, walks, theatre, animals. Box 457521 **1**

TOO MUCH TO ASK? Divorced lady, 45, young looking, blonde, 5ft5. I'm well travelled and have many interests. WLTm black or mixed race, loving man for LTR. Chatham. Box 459246 **1**

GENUINE REPLIES ONLY Bubbly female, 44, brunette, n/s, medium/large build, enjoys singing and theatre. Would love to meet a decent fun-loving guy, similar age, pref non-smoker for LTR. Box 458955 **1**

MY PRINCE? Not-just-for-xmas dog lover, into sports, walks, motorbikes, GSOH, female, 47, pretty, long dark hair, looking for knight in shining armour! East Sussex area. Box 872961 **1**

ETERNALLY YOURS Easygoing woman, likes most things in life; country walks, films, cinema, cooking. I'm 46, 5ft2, medium build, WLTm genuine, happy guy, easygoing and fun. Box 445635 **1**

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME? Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366 **1**

BE MY FRIEND AND LOVER Bubbly, caring lady, 47, divorced with 2 teenagers, dark hair, medium build, into cooking, driving, love to talk, laugh and have fun, seeking a normal guy. Box 425952 **1**

TWO LOVELY LADIES UP FOR GRABS! Two bubbly divorced ladies, 48 and 50, looking for two normal divorced guys, early 30s, for happy times and romance. East Sussex Box 456876 **1**

ARE YOU LOVING AND CARING? Young 48 year old, loving, caring, very bubbly, 5ft5, medium build, blonde, blue eyes, likes clubs, cinema, eating, out, cosy nights, good company. Box 434089 **1**

INTO THE SUNSET Romantic lady, 50, 5'5" blue eyes brown hair, likes to travel, site see, go out, seeking a special man in my life. Dover. Box 460287 **1**

JUST IMAGINE Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLTm genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562 **1**

CARING & PROFESSIONAL Female 49, 5ft4, long hair, slim build, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 48-55. Hastings Box 471100 **1**

NOTHING VENTURED... Hi there, I'm a Sussex based, 51yr old woman, I love eating out, historical sites etc, looking for kind gent for friendship, evenings out, maybe more. Box 459181 **1**

LOVELY BUBBLY Short 51yr old professional lady, likes history, films and reading, seeking a genuine gent, 45-58, with gosh to enjoy evenings out, stimulating conversations and fun. Box 452311 **1**

FUNNY GIRL Petite, blonde female, 51, GSOH, likes music, books, films, cooking, looking for romantic soul-mate 45-55 for TLC. Kent. Box 835181 **1**

COMPANIONSHIP, LAUGHTER, HOPEFULLY MORE Curvy & cuddly, outgoing, friendly, honest female, 53, 5ft7, larger build, fair hair, likes socialising, country walks, theatre, cinema, music, swimming, WLTm similar loving male. Box 443642 **1**

DO YOU HAVE THE BRAINS & THE LOOKS?! Professional, attractive female, 54, enjoys the countryside, gardening, keeping fit, reading and live music, looking to meet an attractive and intelligent man for a relationship. Box 448863 **1**

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HOLDING OUT FOR A HERO Londoner new to the area, 57, 5ft5, slim attractive blonde, seeking a man for serious relationship and lasting happiness. Box 449587 **1**

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS! Smart petite lady, 56, 5ft4, tall, blonde hair, green eyes, likes restaurants, theatre, cinema, travel abroad, seeking happy guy with similar interests. Box 448795 **1**

ANIMAL LOVER Attractive lady, non-smoker, aged 57, GSOH, enjoys eating in/out, seeing friends, theatre, animals, and WLTm similar, non-smoking male. Box 452498 **1**

TIME TO LOVE Slim and active woman, 57, 5ft2, brown hair/green eyes, likes walking, riding, PO, animals, seeking a non-smoking genuine gent for a meaningful relationship. Rochester. Box 456773 **1**

MAKE A NEW FRIEND Fun-loving lady, 58, 5ft4, dark hair, single mum! Likes countryside walks, reading, cooking and cosy nights in, seeks similar male. Folkestone. Box 460420 **1**

DIVORCED Loving, kind, honest female, 58, 5ft6, interests include the countryside, old pubs, music, reading and baking, looking for that special someone to enjoy life with. Box 878455 **1**

WALKS ALONG THE COAST Honest & sincere female, 58, tall, GSOH, loves country pubs, coasts, cinema, seeking a man who's a match for me with GSOH for relationship. Box 441622 **1**

MUSIC TO MY EARS Hi my name's Christine, 59, 5'9", slim build, wear glasses, likes live music, theatre, playing darts, looking for slim build male, for friendship, possible more. Box 413914 **1**

DREAMS OF YOU Genuine, caring lady, late 50s, slim & young looking, looking for a loyal, considerate, N/S male for long term relationship. Box 448566 **1**

BRIGHTENING UP Cuddly lady, 61, 5ft5, blonde, likes swimming, country pubs, cinema and much more. WLTm tallish single man to hopefully brighten each others lives. Box 870214 **1**

SIMPLE PLEASURES Hi there, I'm a 61yr old lady, blonde hair/green eyes, medium build. I love dancing, walking by the sea and WLTm like minded gent. Box 459467 **1**

LOVE ME DO Loving and caring lady, 63, 5ft3, brown hair/eyes, likes most things in life, looking for a caring and considerate male for friendship, hopefully a LTR. Margate. Box 460082 **1**

SOMEbody TO LAUGH WITH... Loving lady looking for companionship, 63, 5ft3, medium build, brown hair/eyes, loves dancing, walks and animals; seeks similar male with great SOH for lasting happiness. Box 446382 **1**

HAPPILY EVER AFTER Happy-go-lucky attractive female, 65, petite, likes gardening, swimming and walking, looking for a honest and reliable man to share life with. Ashford Box 454370 **1**

MEANT TO MEET... Grounded lady of 73, looking for companionship with a similar gentleman who wants to share and enjoy all of life's pleasures. Box 453141 **1**

Women seeking women

A LITTLE AFFECTION Intelligent, cheeky, emotional female, 44, WLTm similar woman, 35-65, for walks, museum/art trips, wine/dining, theatre, good conversation & friendship first, maybe more. Pref Eastbourne area. Box 873058 **1**

HOPE YOU'RE OUT THERE? Sincere female, 49, likes football, animals, country pursuits, seeks feminine woman for friendship, maybe more. Gillingham. Box 456805 **1**

TABLE FOR 2? Homely type woman, 50, looking for a similar female. I'm 5ft5, salt & pepper hair, I'm honest and trustworthy and looking for the same. Hastings. Box 455737 **1**

ATTRACTIVE, BUBBLY Lady 52yrs, 5ft6, blonde, size 12 enjoys good food/wine, theatre, countryside, holidays, seeking a sincere, genuine female, for friendship first, possibly relationship. Box 414143 **1**

VOLUPTUOUS LADY Curvy lady, 57, very loving and graceful, enjoy the beach, music, walking, theatre, and reading, looking for a lady 50-70. Box 458935 **1**

TRUE LOVE Fit and good-looking male, 44, 5ft8, dark hair/eyes, own house, honest and reliable, looking for a woman to find true love with. Brighton. Box 455727 **1**

WISHFULLY YOURS Warm hearted male, 44, 6ft, blond, blue eyes, charity support worker, enjoys keeping fit, cinema, football, driving, looking for a sincere woman for life. Box 454415 **1**

TO BUILD A RELATIONSHIP Hard-working, true gent, 44, reliable, trusting, loving, genuine, enjoys sports, cars, socialising, music, films, seeks oriental or black love of his life. Box 451917 **1**

ALL NIGHT LONG I'm 44, dark hair, blue eyes, 5ft6, loves the cinema and beach walks, music, nights in and out, cooking, seeking female 35-52 for promising relationship. Box 449992 **1**

INTRODUCE US Hi there! I'm a painter/decorator, and I enjoy doing things for charity, and seeing the lads. I'm male, 43, blond hair/blue eyes, slim build, 4 children. Box 451519 **1**

LONG-TERM THING Caring, romantic, loyal guy, 45, 5ft11, slim/medium build, brown hair and blue eyes, gosh, WLTm lady/single mum 25-40, slim/medium build. Hastings. Box 451334 **1**

GENUINE AND RELIABLE 44yr old single man, 5ft11, slim, brown hair/eyes, likes nights out/days in, looking for a mature curvy female for friendship, good hopes, hopefully something lasting. Box 452924 **1**

OFFER ME YOUR LOVE Easygoing male, 45, young looking, 6'4", tall, green eyes, short fair hair, Average build, WLTm like-minded lady, 30-48, for friendship and maybe more. Box 875799 **1**

ALONG THE SHORE Considerate, reliable guy, 44, slim build, 5ft11, likes days out, the coast, nights in, pubs. WLTm kind female, 30-52, for friendship, leading to LTR. Box 448919 **1**

AN ATTRACTIVE OFFER Handsome, tall male, 38, 6'4", looking for a young lady to slowly re-discover the finer things in life. Box 454805 **1**

CHEER ME UP 39yr old male, GSOH, like the normal things in life, WLTm a female for fun and possible relationship. Box 454878 **1**

SAIL AWAY WITH ME Good looking smart male, 39, 5ft9, dark hair and blue eyes, OHAC, no dependents, seeking similar girl to enjoy a trip on a boat...Sittingbourne. Box 460323 **1**

GOSH YOU'RE LUCKY Stocky, 5ft7, 39, male, green-blue eyes, short hair, Virgo, GSOH, love swimming, walks on beaches, days out, seeking similar female, for loving times. Box 455764 **1**

A MAN OF FEW WORDS, BUT MUCH LOVE Hi, 40yr old fun-loving male, looking to meet slim fun-loving female, looks unimportant, for hopeful LTR. Many hobbies and interests! Box 450819 **1**

BEING WITH YOU I'm an honest, easygoing, young-looking, fit male, 40s, 5ft9, love live music, eating out, theatre, cinema and pubs, seeking a like-minded female. Box 893760 **1**

PUT THAT SPARK BACK INTO MY LIFE Virgo male, 40, 5ft7, stocky build, kind, loving, fine guy, enjoys the cinema, meals out, walks on beaches, WLTm like-minded person to be my girl. Box 446212 **1**

HIYA I'm a cute and laid-back guy, 41, 5ft8, short hair, athletic, very tactile, loving and spontaneous, likes shopping, travelling, eating in/out, hate football! Brighton. Box 450614 **1**

EVERYBODY'S FEELING HOT, HOT, HOT Exotic mixed race male, 42, 5'10", likes calypso, limbo dancing, seeks irresistible female from Swale, Medway for romantic sunsets. Box 868677 **1**

THE REAL THING Happy-go-lucky, fun-loving male, 42, 5ft9, brown eyes, medium build, likes nights out, travel, keeping active, seeking similar female for companionship. Box 441762 **1**

HAPPY CHAPPY Attractive male, 43, love enjoying life to the full, looking for a nice female, 50-55, to share special times with. Box 465621 **1**

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MAKE A DATE Fun male 58" brown eyes, whitish hair, looking for an easy-going lady, likes going out, cinema or a meal, and bit of fun. Tunbridge Wells. Box 460283 **1**

LET ME COOK FOR YOU Sincere loving gent, 55, likes fishing and playing pool, football, staying active! Seeks caring, down-to-earth lady for love. Ramsgate. Box 460369 **1**

A VERY GOOD SOH... Hi I'm Male, 56, live by the sea, very youthful, 6ft, slim, tall, appreciates, very attractive apparently...! Enjoys the outdoors, seeks similar lady, Westgate-on-Sea. Box 460324 **1**

WHO KNOWS? Loyal honest guy, 56, 5ft10, slim build, short fair hair, enjoys life and motorcycling, seeking humorous lady with genuine nature for love. Box 448072 **1**

SHALL WE BARGAIN HUNT? Young-looking 57yr old, great SOH, hazel eyes, blonde hair, medium build, likes car-boot sales, WLTm friend first for drinks and maybe see how it goes. Box 448017 **1**

OVER TO YOU Down to earth, blue-eyed male, 58, 5ft9, likes fresh water fishing, the country side and home life, WLTm lady for a caring, loving relationship. Maidstone. Box 460448 **1**

BIT OF A ROMANTIC Single friendly helpful chap, 58, great SOH, young-minded looking, blonde hair, hazel eyes, loves car boot sales, walks along coasts, seeking soulmate to love. Hastings. Box 451492 **1**

JUST THE QUIET LIFE Ordinary male 61, likes country pubs, travelling, quiet nights in, seeks outgoing, quiet lady for friendship and more. Box 459489 **1**

I NEVER JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER Hi, 62yr old ex-female, 6ft2, stocky, likes cinema, DVDs, eating out, pub meals and swimming, looking for warm-hearted, easygoing lady with GSOH. Box 452289 **1**

OUT AND ABOUT Active 75yr old gent, a widower, I'm a non-smoker, with a GSOH, 6ft2, medium build, and enjoy cinema, music, walking. Box 451639 **1**

HITTING THE JACKPOT! 43yr old female, 5ft2, blonde hair, likes eating out, playing bingo, socialising, looking for a man, 20-45, for companionship, maybe something more. Sittingbourne. Box 457494 **1**

PROPERTY NEWS

Developer's emphasis on picturesque plans

HILLREED Homes is proud to have what it calls "picturesque policy" for street scenes in new developments that highlight the landscape.

An example of the company's design policy can be seen at Highland Park, Green Fields Lane, Ashford.

This is a large development offering a wide range of homes, several of which are built on a gentle hillside so many owners benefit from spectacular views across the surrounding area.

"Providing homes in pleasant settings is part of Hillreed Home's policy," said marketing manager Jo Richards.

A spokesman for the company added: "The high-speed train is offering tremendous potential to open up the region, providing super-fast commuting to central London.

"The Channel Tunnel is equally accessible, with shops aplenty in Ashford backed up by easy-to-reach Maidstone.

"This is the area in which to invest as Government money is pumped into this highly desirable south-eastern part of the UK."

Buy-to-let market shows it's back in the groove

THE property slump which saw buy-to-let mortgages drop out of the market is now in a healthier state and they are coming back.

Hopes are growing that lenders may soon be starting to offer buy-to-let loans as demand for rental properties holds up.

Moneysupermarket.com reports the number of enquiries about buy-to-let mortgages has risen by almost 50 per cent in the last year.

However, there are now 70 per cent fewer products on the market.

Hannah Mercedes-Shenfield, at moneysupermarket, said: "With significantly fewer products left on the market and high interest rates attached to those available we could potentially have a ticking buy-to-let timebomb on our hands – the need for rental housing is increasing, but there may not be enough landlords to cater for this demand."

There is good news to report despite downturn

■ BY NICK AMES

THE Kent property market recorded an encouraging performance during 2008/09 despite the downturn, according to the latest Kent Property Market Report.

The report, launched to an audience of almost 200 property professionals at Ashford International Hotel, reveals that despite the challenging economic climate, office rental values in the county remained stable, growing by 0.4 per cent in comparison with the UK average, which fell by 3.8 per cent.

Kent Property Market Report, written by Kent County Council and property experts Cluttons LLP, is produced by investment promotion agency Locate in Kent.

It reviews property performance and major deals in Kent in the financial year April 2008 to March 2009 and provides insight into residential, retail and regeneration programmes and, for the first time, the rural property market.

Ashford is already benefiting from Southeastern's preview high-speed rail services, meaning journeys from Ashford International Station into London take only 37 minutes.

The launch of full services in December is likely to fuel further investment and growth in the town, pointing towards a positive and encouraging economic outlook.

Paul Carter, leader of KCC, said: "This report shows that Kent is resilient and is coming out of this recession fighting. Kent has fared well in comparison to the rest of the UK. At KCC we see regeneration as a major responsibility.

"We will continue to invest in roads, schools and major regeneration schemes such as those in Ashford.

"And as a county we must take full advantage of the opportunities presented by the arrival of high-speed rail services to Kent."

Ashford's Growth Area development strategy is making good progress, which includes planning approval for Victoria Way, a proposed



ENCOURAGING: The county has fared well over 2008/09 according to the latest Kent Property Market Report

new road that will improve access to the station and the town centre. The variety of regeneration projects in the town show encouraging signs for the future and included the mixed-use development Elwick Place, a new commercial office quarter near the train station and the new Herald building at Eureka Park.

Alison Owen, partner at Cluttons LLP, said: "Property developers have proved flexible this year in response to demand and are focusing efforts on smaller-unit schemes offering shorter-term lettings.

"Credit constraints are continuing to have an effect on both the residential and commercial property markets; however, the report shows that there continues to be an excellent supply of office space at affordable prices.

"Rural property assets have witnessed a real

resurgence in the last year, with investors looking for steady returns."

Paul Wookey, chief executive of Locate in Kent, said: "During the year, Locate in Kent recorded 246 new projects, representing an increase on last year, further proving that interest in Kent from UK and international investors remains strong.

"We will continue to aggressively target high-growth and high-value sectors, including financial and business services, software infrastructure technologies, life sciences and environmental technologies.

"We want to tap into the UK government's growth ambitions and Kent has a key role to play in helping the UK reach its full potential as a world class leader in environmental technologies."

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MOTORS NEWS



Dramatic new look for sixth generation Astra

VAUXHALL'S most dramatic Astra yet arrives in showrooms for December.

Styling echoing that of the Insignia launched earlier in 2009, is just part of the appeal. The sixth generation Astra also has a quality interior and even more class than its capable predecessor.

There is a revamped engine line-up including two feisty low capacity turbocharged petrol engines – more evidence of a fight back against diesel. A five-door Astra arrives first with a three-door and estate to follow.



Landie' proves to be a classic readers' pin-up

BRITISH classic, the Land Rover Defender, topped a readers' poll by What Car?

The magazine's editor Steve Fowler said: "The Land Rover Defender has always had a devoted following. It's far from the most sophisticated car on the road, but its no-nonsense approach and longevity are what our readers like most about it."

Other winners in the 2009 Reader Awards included: Fiat 500 (supermini), Jaguar XJ (executive/luxury), Audi A5 (coupé) and Mazda MX-5 (open-top).



Remote control driving is not such a bad idea

CARS that drive themselves can become reality within ten years, says a European project called SARTRE (Safe Road Trains for the Environment).

This technology alliance, led by UK automotive developer Ricardo and including Volvo Cars, believes road trains – particularly on motorways – can speed traffic flow and journey times, boost driver comfort and reduce accidents, fuel consumption and CO2 emissions with much of the technology already available.



RETRO CLASSIC: The stunning new-look Jaguar XF echoes the brand's old style 'grace and pace' and comes complete with the company's most powerful diesel engine so far

End of Groundhog Day nightmare for Jaguar

JAGUAR has broken free from an automotive Groundhog Day of years re-creating the styling of its 60s heyday.

Its middleweight XF (from £33,200) model re-wrote the style book last year – soon to be joined by an equally radical XJ.

It announced that Jaguar was ready to innovate again and the XF just got better too with the new 272bhp V6 3.0-litre S twin-turbodiesel (from £36,900) version tested here – Jaguar's most powerful diesel so far.

It might have escaped trad Jag styling, but the stunning new look echoes the brand's old style 'grace and pace' advertising.

The engine feels lively yet sensible too and shows how far diesel engines have come lately; there is a pleasing resonance more like a gutsy petrol unit and a smooth power delivery.

Most muscle comes from the larger turbo, with the smaller kicking in at 2,800rpm, enabling the car to be both Jaguar and pussy cat.

It responds with dismissive ease when called to overtake, whether the seamless six-speed auto gearbox is in standard or sport mode.

ROAD TEST JAGUAR XF

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

The latter tightens up throttle and steering response and is the perfect partner to manual selection via steering wheel paddles, allowing you to exploit the rear driven chassis' sure-footedness beneath a typically well-sorted ride quality.

But it is tempting to just idle around knowing the Jag can dash to 60mph in under six seconds yet, driven normally, average around 40mpg with CO2 emissions of 179g/km or road tax Band I (£175/yr) – impressive for a rapid and relatively big car.

A junior version of the same engine developing 237bhp rather than 271bhp is even more frugal yet still outperforms the 3.0-litre V6 petrol XF, which is only marginally cheaper – who is going to buy that now?

If that heresy rattles G 'n' T's down at the Jaguar gentlemen's club, then the XF interior should send the ice cubes into orbit.

It is emphatically not old style-style 'clubby' Jaguar. The use of wood is understated and the leather wears minimal stitching while the detail is techno. The control set all works beautifully and there is even a big boot and folding rear seat backs for longer loads – a far cry from the pinched back ends of those Groundhog Days.



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Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
08	58	Agila Club A/c	1.2	5	Steel Silver	4,385	7,995
08	58	Agila Club A/c CDTi	1.3D	5	Steel silver	6,450	8,995

ASTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
04	04	Astra Club Auto	1.8	5	Silver	91,800	3,995
06	56	Astra Active	1.6	5	Silver lightening	36,800	7,895
07	57	Astra Energy	1.4	5	Silver lightening	13,890	7,995
07	57	Astra Sxi	1.4	5	Moonland	27,275	8,795
08	08	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Black sapphire	15,395	10,495
08	08	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Black sapphire	15,890	9,495
08	58	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Green spirit	3,725	10,995
08	58	Astra Sxi X Pack	1.8	3	Black sapphire	5,960	12,995
09	09	Astra Breeze Plus CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	8,320	11,495
09	09	Astra Breeze Plus	1.6	5	Metro blue	5,950	10,495
09	09	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Ultra blue	5,650	10,995
09	09	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Metro blue	4,720	10,995

CORSA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
01	26*	Corso comfort auto	1.4	3	Star silver	69,350	3,295
06	55	Corso Life	1.2	3	Misty grey	11,295	4,995
06	56	Corso Sxi Plus	1.4	5	Silver lightening	17,200	6,795
07	57	Corso Design	1.2	3	Air blue	21,575	7,795
07	57	Corso Design	1.4	5	Silver lightening	19,370	8,495
07	57	Corso Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Air blue	25,800	8,395
08	08	Corso Breeze	1.2	3	Star silver	12,220	8,195
08	58	Corso Sxi CDTi A/c	1.3	5	Silver lightening	12,775	9,795
08	58	Corso Design CDTi	1.3	3	Metro blue	6,425	9,795
09	58	Corso Sxi A/c	1.4	5	Metro blue	11,390	9,495
08	58	New Corso Sxi CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	4,200	9,495
09	09	Corso Sxi In Touch	1.2	5	Star silver	4,110	10,395
09	09	Corso Sxi In Touch	1.2	5	Star silver	2,940	10,395
09	09	Corso Design In Touch	1.2	3	Black sapphire	3,380	9,995

INSIGNIA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
09	58	Insignia Elite Auto Nav	2.0	5	Star silver	4,060	19,995

MERIVA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
03	53*	Meriva Enjoy	1.6	5	Star silver	86,875	3,795
07	07	Meriva Energy	1.4	5	Silver lightening	18,950	7,495
08	58	Meriva CDTi Breeze Plus	1.3	5	Black sapphire	10,930	9,995
09	09	Meriva Active CDTi	1.3D	5	Ultra blue	8,750	10,695

TIGRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
06	06	Tigra Exclusive	1.4	2	Air blue	30,500	8,995

VECTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
04	54*	Vectra Design Auto	2.2	5	Oyster	63,100	4,495
06	06	Vectra elite CDTi (150)	1.9	5	Black Sapphire	38,125	8,995

ZAFIRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
03	03*	Zafira Elegance	1.8	5	Prestige blue	33,660	4,995
06	56	Zafira Club	1.6	5	Metro blue	40,250	8,495
09	09	Zafira Breeze Plus	1.6	5	Star silver	8,750	11,995

OTHER MAKES

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
04	54*	Mitsubishi Colt Equipe diesel	1.5	5	Silver	62,670	3,995
05	55	Citroen C2 design	1.1	3	Blue	30,450	4,495

DUE SOON

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
08	58	Corso Sxi A/c	1.2	5	Black sapphire	9,000	9,995
08	03*	Astra Club	1.6	5	Star silver	21,000	3,995
06	56	Signum Elite Auto CDTi	1.9D	5	Misty grey	48,000	8,995
05	05*	Zafira Design CDTi	1.9D	5	Star silver	66,000	7,995
09	09	Zafira Sxi XP CDTi	1.9D	5	Star silver	5,000	18,995
09	09	Insignia Elite CDTi Auto (160)	1.9D	4	Black sapphire	8,000	22,995
09	09	Insignia Sports Tourer Exclusiv (160)	1.9D	5	Panacotta	12,000	17,995
09	09	Insignia Sports Tourer Exclusiv (180)	1.9D	5	Silver lightening	5,000	17,995

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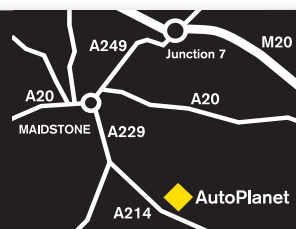
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www.shepway.gov.uk

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Shepway District Council
www.shepway.gov.uk



Shepway District Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer and welcomes applications irrespective of race, colour, age, sex or disability.

Operations Manager

We are looking for an experienced person to be responsible for the smooth running of our innovative charity; supporting and overseeing areas such as administration, communications, finance and fundraising.

Pro-rata £25,000 / initially 3 days a week (flexible) / Canterbury-based

For more information see www.peopleunited.org.uk, email info@peopleunited.org.uk or contact Tom Andrews on 01227 470973.
Closing date for applications 5pm 9 November.

To advertise in this section
 01303 817040

Interested In Health & Wellness? Class leaders wanted for Arriba!

Wellness Clubs

£1,000-£2,500 per month
F/T or P/T Full Training Available
Call Sara on **01795 532201**
www.arriba-classleaders.co.uk

Owner drivers required

with bikes, small vans, transits, sprinters, and 7.5T Lorries/Box Truck with Tail Gate to carry out same day deliveries nationwide and European for a local transport company.

Excellent rates of pay immediate start, please call Kirit on **0844 335 6919**

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Children's Support Worker – Sunlight Project

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KCA Young Persons' Services provide specialist substance misuse help for children, young people, their families and carers. The Sunlight Project, funded by the Big Lottery Fund, offers support to children from substance misusing families in Swale, Dover and Thanet.

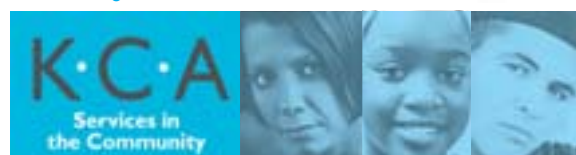
We require a support worker to deliver our group work programmes aimed at 7 – 13 year old children who are affected by someone else's misuse of substances. The groups promote emotional and psychological well-being through structured sessions. The project works closely with Children's Social Services, schools and other children's services.

You will need experience of working with children and delivering group work interventions. Ideally you will also have a sound knowledge of substance misuse issues.

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from
www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference number 611.
Closing date: 30 October 2009. Interview date: 10 November 2009.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.
Charity no: 292824.

www.kca.org.uk



Telesales Executive

We have an exciting opportunity for you to join our Multi Media business which includes the award winning Kent on Saturday and Kent on Sunday newspapers.

If you are highly driven, confident, a self motivated team player with good communication skills, who is able to work under pressure to deadlines and targets, in our fast paced and fun telesales department, then apply.

You will be office based and working with an existing client base of advertisers where customer service is paramount, but you must also be able to search out new business to develop and grow your territory revenues and opportunities. Due to location, you need to have your own transport and a proven track record in sales is preferable.

We offer:

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Apply in writing to:
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Canterbury based

An exciting opportunity has arisen for the above post designed to focus on involving young people in fundraising within Pilgrims Hospices.

The Youth Fundraising Co-ordinator will be responsible for the development of fundraising and volunteering within schools, colleges and universities.

The successful applicant will have experience of community fundraising, public speaking and have excellent communication skills.

The applicant will be personable, approachable and able to relate well to people at all levels.

Additionally they will be IT literate with excellent planning skills and an eye for detail, have access to own transport and be willing to work flexibly with minimum supervision.

For a full job description and application form please download from www.pilgrimshospice.org

Closing date: Wednesday 11 November 2009

Pilgrims Hospices in East Kent is a registered charity no. 293968



Stirling Way, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6NB

Tele: 01843 593326

www.marloweacademy.co.uk

Learning Mentor required

To provide support for students and successful applicants will need to:

Have a calm and supportive manner
Relate well to young people
Be a good team member
Have a good standard of education
Level 2/GCSE maths

Previous experience useful but not essential.

Hours : 40 per week [8.30 to 5.00pm]
Monday to Friday term time only

Pay range:: New Academy Scheme Salaries
Scale 3 £14,169—£16,064 pa fte

Please send a copy of your C.V. to the school or email
jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk

Enquiries or visits to the Academy are welcome.

Please contact Jennifer Spooner on direct telephone number 01843 598550 or email to address above

We look forward to hearing from you.

The closing date for post: Friday 6th November 2009

Successful applicants will be subject to an Enhanced Criminal Disclosure

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

KOS MEDIA (PUBLISHING) LTD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Advertisements will be accepted only on the express condition that the advertiser warrants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene any existing legislation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
- It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising meets all forms of government legislation and KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability in errors and omissions to the content of our media.
- All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
- All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement.
- Any unsuitable material posted on any website belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the advertiser or any associated third party will be removed or refused. All passwords and security supplied to the advertiser by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in relation to the use of the posting of material via the media owner's online administration tool will be the responsibility of the advertiser. The advertiser indemnifies KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd against any damages as a result of misuse of these privileges by either the advertiser or any third party given password privileges by the advertiser.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to change passwords intermittently to ensure the overall and ongoing security of its websites within the public domain.
- Copyright and licenses for voice-over/music/photography or film for advertising promotions or otherwise within the various forms of media in print, online and moving film owned by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must have been sought, verified or paid for by the advertiser where applicable. Approval or permissions must have been given by any potential beneficial owner voice-over or music. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd.
- Where shrinkage of an advertisement occurs for whatever reason, the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre where it relates to the media owner's printed publications. This will NOT apply to full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to omit or refuse any advertisement/commercial/web content without notice or explanation. In these terms the word "advertiser" shall be construed to include any person or organisation placing an advertisement on behalf of an advertiser.
- A guarantee of insertion cannot be given and the media owners shall not be liable for any loss or damage caused by any error inaccuracy within your marketing content. In no case shall the total liability of the media owner for any error or omission exceed the price charged by the media owner for that advertising.
- No liability is accepted for any loss or damage alleged to have arisen through delay in forwarding replies to Box numbers, however caused, nor for the loss or damage to any artwork supplied.
- Claims for any error or inaccuracy in your media messages with KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be made in writing to the accounts department within 10 days of publishing.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions made on their websites by the advertiser.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd has the right to cancel the advertiser's annual membership without notice should the advertiser deliberately publish out of date material or content on any of the media owner's online digital platforms. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd will seek to recover, in full, all outstanding invoices in relation to the signed annual membership as a result of the advertiser's negligence in this regard and reserves the right to claim damages for any potential vesation of the advertiser.
- Advertisers are requested to check their advertisements after the first insertion. The media owner will not be responsible for any errors on subsequent insertions, which have not been advised to them in writing.
- A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts from KOS Media's standard effective media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009) will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly in line with KOS Media's standard media rate card (effective July 2008-June 2009) and will reflect the revised length of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met in full by the advertiser as per KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009). Discounts will be reapplied and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by either party within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any other advertising placed must give a minimum of seven days' written notice and any discounts given for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
- Seasonal contracts. Your Professional classified advertisements or any uplift advertising within the annual contract with the advertiser will be invoiced in full - at rate card - on receipt of any written cancellation of this contract within the 12-months.
- All uplift advertisements must be booked in at least three months in advance of publication and will be subject to availability. All dates booked will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
- The advertiser must agree to the date and time of filming of any online TV advertising commercial supplied by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd within the advertiser's agreement. (Platinum, Gold, Silver standard of commercial). Should, for any reason, the advertiser not be available at the agreed time without giving sufficient notice (at least 48 hours), KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to charge for any further TV production at its standard published hourly rate should the advertiser still wish to use KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's production services to complete its TV commercial or photographic imagery included in the advertiser's agreement. The advertiser will approve and accept that there are only two choices of voice-over and music offered by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Should an advertiser wish to use other voice-overs or non-copyright free music, it is the responsibility of the advertiser to pay the PRS rights should they be required to do so. Any changes to or failure to approve the TV production by the deadlines agreed between both parties will result in KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd being given permission by the advertiser to replace the TV commercial with pictures or stills from a choice of photography supplied by the media owner until the advertiser can supply a TV commercial produced at their own cost and risk outside of this agreement. The advertiser also accepts and agrees that this action would not reduce the value or cost of their membership. Any cost of changes required to the TV commercial throughout the advertiser's agreement will be borne by the advertiser outside of this agreement.
- Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within their category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc) other than they will be ranked based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
- Any delivery claims made by the advertiser or discount vouchers published within the print or online media of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd and any action as a result of the public or otherwise is the sole responsibility of the advertiser. Any claims resulting from this via KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be met by the advertiser.
- a. All credit accounts due for payment shall be notified to the Advertiser by the 30th day following the date of the invoice. All sums due to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring shall be paid in full, and the Advertiser shall have no right of set off in any circumstances.
b. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring by the due date, the media owner shall be entitled to suspend all further advertising until payment is received and/or repudiate the contract and make any surcharges for breaking the contract.
c. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the due date, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdue balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Westminster Bank Plc from time to time in force.
d. Notwithstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the Advertiser ceasing to use the services of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (for whatever reason), the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.
e. The Advertiser will be liable for all costs incurred by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.
f. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
- Any discount which KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
- Advertising Agency commission will be allowed to those advertisers recognised by the Newspaper Society, but shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms.
- All private advertisements and certain categories as laid down by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
- The Advertiser agrees to indemnify KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owner or any of its companies within the KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
- An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with them.
- Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belong to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's written consent.

All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

Effective from June 2008

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Instructors will be expected to teach from beginner level and should develop and lead small ensembles for public performances.

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CVs and letters of application by post to the address above

FAO: Jennifer Spooner HR Manager or via
jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk. **You should state the post you are applying for**, your principal instrument and your suitability for such a post. Appointments are subject to an enhanced CRB check.

Closing date for applications: 6th November 2009

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Assisting our production department in the collating and processing of advertisement copy to meet deadlines.

Please apply in writing, quoting: Reference sales admin, to:

Jo Nicoll, Personnel Department
KoS Media
Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth
Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR
Telephone: (01303) 817000
E-mail: jo.nicoll@kosmedia.co.uk



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We are looking for experienced, confident and self-motivated team players, preferably with newspaper experience, who are seeking to further their career within the industry. The individual must have relevant Mac experience, including knowledge of Quark, Photoshop and Illustrator.

The position involves creating visuals for customers, ad setting, including property and motors, creating classified sections and make-up of pages to be sent to our printers. The candidate should be able to work under pressure, meet strict deadlines and be eager to work within a team environment to ensure the smooth operation of our fast-paced production department.

Hours will include a Saturday or Sunday.
Previous applicants need not apply.

To apply, send a CV and covering letter to:
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Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SR
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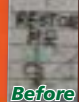
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BRACE: Rachael Lukehurst was the key

Lukehurst hits double in Gore Court win

HOCKEY

Letchworth ladies 3

Gore Court ladies 1st XI 4

GORE Court ladies picked up their first win of the season at Letchworth, but were made to work hard for their three points.

From the start, Court looked to dominate possession and were able to create several early chances, but Letchworth scored against the run of play. The Sittingbourne side didn't let that knock them out of their stride and Ali Cox soon scored to draw the sides level. Rachael Lukehurst then scored a great short corner and just before half-time, she converted a penalty flick to take the score to 3-2 after Lethworth had equalised.

The second-half was an altogether different

affair as Cox had to go off injured after a terrible tackle. Captain Haley Surridge scored a fantastic goal from the resulting short corner which gave Court a two-goal lead.

With Cox off the pitch, the team had to regroup but were playing good hockey when the game degenerated due to several interesting

umpiring decisions. Court were down to 10 men on a couple of occasions and had to defend numerous short corners as Letchworth grabbed another to make it a tense finish.

However, great determination and team spirit saw the side claim their first win of the campaign.

The men's 1st XI beat Barnes 2-1 on Saturday with the prolific Aaron Glass netting a brace to take his season's tally to 11 goals from four games. Barnes opened the scoring late in the second half, but two Glass goals – both converted short corners – in the last ten minutes, gave Court the win.

Pictures: STERILGARDIA DUCATI



PORTUGAL: Shane Byrne finished eighth overall in his first World Superbike Championship season

Byrne misses out on podium

SUPERBIKES

SHANE Byrne finished his first season in the World Superbike Championship with an eighth place finish overall after a good showing in the final round in Portimau, Portugal.

Last season's British Superbike champion, from Sheppey, left Portugal having just missed out on a podium place after two fourth place finishes.

Byrne started battling for the podium from the first laps in race one and got in a duel with Jonathan Rea and then with Max Biaggi, but finished just four tenths of a second off the podium.

In race two, the islander put in a great performance as he got a great start and took the lead for which he battled with Rea for three quarters of the race. He gave it his all but had to up the pace due to worn tyres and finished fourth yet again after being overtaken by Michel Fabrizio and by Noriyuki Haga, who was aiming to win the title.

Byrne said: "I gave it my all in both races and I would've really enjoyed finishing on the podium, but it was honestly impossible for me to do better than this. The team did a great job the entire weekend, the bike performed very well and so I was able to compete with the factory riders for the top positions."

PLEASE SEND YOUR SPORTS STORIES TO SPORTS EDITOR GLENN PEARSON AT
glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk



Picture: TONY GRAY

GOAL: Richard Sinden watched his effort go in for Faversham Town in their 2-0 win against Fisher at the weekend, giving them an advantage in the second leg of the Premier Division Cup

Town boss hopes to give fringe players a run out

FOOTBALL

■ BY GLENN PEARSON

Fisher 0

Faversham Town 2

Sinden 47, Smissen 90

FAVERSHAM Town boss Justin Luchford hopes to ring the changes once again for Saturday's Premier Division Cup second leg clash with Fisher.

The Lilywhites take an advantage into this weekend's game after winning the first leg 2-0 at Champion Hill thanks to goals from Richard Sinden and Buster Smissen.

Luchford gave a first-team debut to teenager Dan Ellett who filled in at right-back in place of the injured Jamie Sparks, while Aaron Quain got a start at left-back. Midfielder Dave Botterill made his first start of the season since coming back from injury, while Sinden also marked a rare 90 minutes for Town with another goal.

The Town boss hopes to give several of his other fringe players a go this weekend, but insists a chance to progress to the quarter-finals of the cup is an opportunity the club won't be passing up.

"If we get past Fisher, we get into the quarter-final draw and I think at the moment the cup is

important for us," he told Yourswale. "The problem is if you go out, you could be two weeks without a game, so at the moment it's important for us."

While the cup takes centre stage this week, it gives Town and Luchford a chance to take stock of where the club are as they head into the busy pre-Christmas period. The Lilywhites top the division by nine points, are in the second round of the FA Vase and are still in the Premier Division Cup.

The Salters Lane club remain unbeaten in the league, but when that goes – and it will according to Luchford – it will be a key point in

Faversham Town starting XI



Subs used: Tanner (Abel 65), Hamshare (Botterill 75)

their season.

"When I looked at the fixtures at the start of September, I knew that was going to be a challenging month," he said. "But we've come away with a win in the Vase and wins against Hythe, Herne Bay and Erith; I never saw nine points from those games. It's great to be going into November undefeated, top of the league and in the Vase, I guess it has exceeded my expectations."

Town take on Fisher in the second leg of the Premier Division Cup on Saturday at Salters Lane, kick-off is at 3pm.

Bourne and Kayembe net late on to earn a point

FOOTBALL

BY PETER PITTS

Sittingbourne 2

Bourne 66, Kayembe 71

Croydon Athletic 2

Piper 53, Noel 60

TWO second-half goals from Matt Bourne and Elie Kayembe helped Sittingbourne rescue a point against Croydon Athletic at the weekend.

Boss Gary Abbott had to shuffle his pack for the game as defender Femi Omebehin was missing because of a hamstring injury, forcing midfielder Colin Richmond to fill in at the back and Billy Manners went into midfield.

Tom Bradbrook, now fully recovered from his injury, resumed up front meaning that Jon Neal could be loaned out to Erith & Belvedere.

Croydon had a few long range efforts in the opening period but Bradbrook came closest to opening the scoring. On 14 minutes he brilliantly made space for a shot that was smartly turned round a post by Croydon stopper Ross Flitney. Flitney was in action again five minutes later, this time making a good catch from Elie Kayembe's shot.

The home side were looking dangerous and



CLOSE: Matt Bourne got on the scoresheet for Sittingbourne

Flitney was called into action to save from both Richmond and Kayembe, before Manners saw a header come back off the crossbar.

The Brickies almost scored straight after half-time when the ball was squared to Hicham Akhazzan, who just failed to connect.

Against the run of play, the visitors grabbed a 53rd minute lead. A poor throw out by

Sittingbourne starting XI



Sittingbourne goalkeeper Deren Ibrahim found a Croydon player who crossed into the Sittingbourne area. Ibrahim failed to get enough on his punch and the ball fell straight to Chris Piper who crashed it first time into the back of the net.

Athletic should have extended their lead three minutes later when Noel raced away, but he fired his effort hopelessly over the bar.

Sittingbourne's relief lasted barely four minutes when the ball landed at the feet of Noel who fired in a powerful shot that Ibrahim could only watch go into the net.

A resilient Sittingbourne regrouped and hit back with two goals in the space of five minutes.

Matt Bourne scoring the first on 66 minutes firing back Flitney's palmed save. Then a good run by Akhazzan ended in his shot being parried out by Flitney, and this time it was Kayembe who was on hand to fire home.

Bradbrook was sent off late on for gesturing to the fans but Sittingbourne held on to earn a point.

RUGBY



WINNER: Sittingbourne put pressure on the visitors

Bourne bounce back with convincing win

Sittingbourne 27 Beccehamians 6

A STRONG start from Sittingbourne helped them overcome Beccehamians at the weekend and put to bed the disappointment of last week's defeat at HSBC.

Bourne came out of the blocks at a rate of knots and put pressure on the visitors from the outset. Whilst an early Scott Truss penalty was all they had to show for this pressure, it set the tone for the remainder of the first half, with Bourne spending the majority of the time in and around the Beccs 22. It came as no real surprise when Bourne did manage to cross the line after 20 minutes.

Some excellent driving play from a series of rucks saw the ball spread wide through a number of hands to free up winger James Hobson, who sprinted over wide out.

With Truss converting, Bourne now seemed fully in control at 10-0. However, this lead was cut a few minutes later, during one of Beccs few forays into the Bourne half, with a well-struck penalty.

Dived

The home side's response, though, was swift and clinical when they again put together a series of rucks and took the ball deep into the Beccs half. From one such drive, the ball was spread out to fly-half Truss, who dummied his way through before feeding centre Sam Catlin who dived over under the posts.

With Truss converting, Bourne were back in the driving seat at 17-3. However, the half concluded with Beccs threatening the Bourne line through a series of drives in close. Indeed, it was only some fantastic defence which kept them at bay, and they had to settle for a simple penalty to end the half 17-6 down. The second-half followed a similar pattern to the first with Bourne retaining the ball well and pressurising the Beccs defence.

The half was only ten minutes old when Bourne extended their lead, with vice-captain Rob McNamara smashing his way over in the corner from close range.

The home side were now fully on the front foot and scored another try five minutes later, when some good hands freed up full-back Roo Nanson, who cruised over wide out.

The win moves Sittingbourne back up to fourth.

LEAGUE TABLES

(Not including midweek games)

RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Folkestone Invicta	11	7	3	1	+8	24
2 Fleet Town	12	7	2	3	+13	23
3 Merstham	13	7	2	4	+5	23
4 Godalming Town	11	7	1	3	+8	22
5 Worthing	11	7	0	4	+9	21
6 Croydon Athletic	10	5	4	1	+16	19
7 Chatham Town	11	5	2	4	0	17
8 Burgess Hill Town	11	5	1	5	0	16
9 Leatherhead	10	4	3	3	+3	15
10 Corinthian-Casuals	11	4	3	4	+2	15
11 Ramsgate	12	4	3	5	+2	15
12 Walton & Hersham	9	4	3	2	+2	15
13 Dulwich Hamlet	12	3	6	3	+1	15
14 Metropolitan Police	11	3	5	3	+2	14
15 Sittingbourne	9	3	4	2	+1	13
16 Whyteleafe	11	4	0	7	0	12
17 Walton Casuals	10	2	4	4	-3	10
18 Ashford Town	11	2	3	6	-20	9
19 Eastbourne Town	11	1	5	5	-7	8
20 Horsham YMCA	10	1	4	5	-10	7
21 Chipstead	11	1	4	6	-13	7
22 Whitstable Town	10	2	0	8	-19	6

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

1 Faversham Town	10	9	1	0	+21	28
2 Herne Bay	9	6	1	2	+8	19
3 Erith & Belvedere	9	6	0	3	+4	18
4 Beckenham Town	9	5	1	3	+6	16
5 Greenwich Borough	10	4	3	3	+2	15
6 Erith Town	7	3	3	1	+6	12
7 Sevenoaks Town	9	3	3	3	+3	12
8 Fisher	11	3	2	6	-8	11
9 Holmesdale	9	3	1	5	-2	10
10 Sporting Bengal Utd	9	3	1	5	-12	10
11 Hythe Town	5	2	2	1	+8	8
12 Deal Town	7	2	2	3	-6	8
13 Tunbridge Wells	7	1	4	2	0	7
14 Norton Sports	9	2	1	6	-6	7
15 Corinthian	7	0	3	4	-11	3
16 Lordswood	7	0	2	5	-13	2

FIXTURES (Saturday): Ryman Division One South: Sittingbourne v Walton Casuals; Kent League Premier Division: Hythe Town v Norton Sports; Premier Division Cup First Round Second Leg: Faversham Town v Fisher

Faversham swimmers show they're Masters of Medway

SWIMMING

FAVERSHAM Swimming Club's Masters team returned home from the Medway Masters Open with a haul of medals.

Faversham entered nine swimmers into the competition, including Lisa Collins, who entered her first competition and smashed her personal best times by finishing second in the ladies 50-metre freestyle and third in the 50-metre backstroke.

Faversham's other elite swimmers included Jo Cleary who competed in the ladies 50-metre breaststroke where she finished in third place and she also took second in the 100-metre breaststroke.

Katy Dinley's astonishing performances earned her first place in the ladies 50-metre backstroke, while she also finished third in the 50-metre breaststroke, second in the 100-metre freestyle, third in the 50-metre butterfly and 50-metre freestyle, as well as second in the 100-metre individual medley.

Nikki Scamp scooped a first place finish in the ladies 50-metre backstroke and second in the 50-metre freestyle.

Veteran swimmer John Bailey won the 50-metre backstroke in a personal best time and also finished first in the 100-metre breaststroke.

Faversham also entered three relay teams for the first time and they all finished with good times.

Team leader Katy Dinley said: "Everyone was cheering each other on which made a great atmosphere, well done to all the swimmers taking part."



MEDAL HAUL: Faversham Swimming Club's Masters team won a haul of medals at the Medway Masters Open

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ts are found at most hospitals.
being very ill or are badly injured,
rator that there is a medical
e sent to your location.

When and Why?

Emergency services are very busy. They should only be used in very serious or life-threatening situations.

Choosing well ensures that essential treatment is given, in the shortest possible time

Walk-in centres

Walk-in centres are located across eastern Kent for minor injuries and give you health advice. They are open until late in the evening. You will be seen by an experienced nurse.

When and Why?

Use your local minor injuries unit or walk-in centre if you need medical treatment or advice which does not need a visit to A&E or a medical appointment.

Choosing well ensures you receive the best possible treatment, leaving emergency services to those who need them most.

For details of your local minor injuries unit or walk-in centre call **0845 46 47** or visit **www.nhsdirect.co.uk**

GP surgeries are located across eastern and coastal Kent. Make an appointment with a GP surgery for medical problems. You can visit your home outside of opening hours by contacting your local surgery and follow the recorded message.

When and Why?

Make an appointment with your local GP surgery when you have an illness or injury that will not go away this winter.

Choosing well ensures that you get the treatment you need, and reduces the demand on emergency services.

For details of your nearest GP surgery call **0845 46 47** or visit **www.nhsdirect.co.uk**

Pharmacies are located across eastern and coastal Kent. Visit your local pharmacy for advice on common winter illnesses and the treatment you need.

When and Why?

Visit your local pharmacy when you are suffering from a common winter health problem which does not require being seen by a nurse or doctor.

Choosing well ensures you get the treatment you need in the shortest possible time, reducing the pressure on essential NHS services.

For details of your nearest pharmacy call **0845 46 47** or visit **www.nhsdirect.co.uk**

Get expert advice and information by telephone, on the NHS Direct line, 24 hours a day. You can also visit **www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk** or use the NHS Direct app on Sky Digital's interactive service.

When and Why?

Contact NHS Direct if you are ill and have any questions about health. The service can also help you to find health services in your local area.

Choosing well ensures you get expert advice in the shortest possible time, meaning busy NHS services can help those who need them most.

Self-care is the best choice to treat very minor illnesses and injuries. You can get advice on self care from the NHS Direct app or website.

When and Why?

Self-care is the best choice to treat very minor illnesses and injuries.

Choosing well ensures you receive the rest and recovery you need, meaning busy NHS services can help those who need them most. For advice on self care call **0845 46 47** or visit **www.nhsdirect.co.uk**

Why choose well?

During winter, more people get ill or are injured than at other times of the year.

This means that the services provided by the National Health Service (NHS) are needed more than ever.

This information will help you decide if you need medical attention if you get sick. It explains what each NHS service does, and when it should be used.

Choosing well means you will get the best treatment this winter. It also allows busy NHS services to help the people who need them most.

Useful information

There are some easy ways you can lower your risk of getting ill this winter:

- When you cough or sneeze use a tissue, and then put it in the bin and wash your hands.
- Stay warm by making sure your home is heated, and by wearing lots of layers of clothing.
- Have many hot meals and drinks to keep your temperature and strength up.
- If you smoke, consider quitting to improve your circulation and general health. In case you do get ill, it is good to be prepared with essential medicines:
 - Paracetamol or aspirin.
 - Anti-diarrhoeal medicine.
 - Oral rehydration mixture.
 - Indigestion remedy.
 - Plasters.
 - A thermometer.

Remember, if you need any extra advice contact NHS Direct:

0845 4647

www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

FREEVIEW channel 108, or page two on Sky Digital's interactive service.